



# Annual Town Report 1981



**AGAWAM TOWN MANAGER EDWARD A. CAB**

The Town Manager's Office was headed by Richard J. Bowen January through September of 1981. This office continued to administer town business in a smooth and orderly manner including several major projects.

**Examining Resources**

In January, the Town Manager began the budget process for the fiscal year 1981-82. In view of the then-recent passage of Proposition 2½, all communities statewide including Agawam began examining resources and developing budget strategies to meet the requirements of said Proposition 2½. Agawam saw water and sewer user charges, the merger of the depart-

ments of Parks & Recreation with Building Maintenance, the merger of the Youth Center with the Span Counseling Center in addition to several other innovative projects along with level-funding departmental budgets as a method to deal with Proposition 2½.

This office in conjunction with the Agawam Town Council established and instituted the 'Honored Citizens Award' during the springtime and the 'Honored Citizens Award Reception' was held on May 16, 1981 at 2:00 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House to honor those citizens the council sub-committee nominated as outstanding citizens.

This office received positive signals that the proposed industrial park at Bowles Airport would become a reality after many, many months working towards same in this administration as well as in past administrations. Westmass Area Development Corporation in late February completed a favorable study/analysis for the so-called Bowles Airport Industrial Park. Westmass also allocated \$15,000 for engineering work including site borings and soil analyses. In short, Westmass continued its positive interest as best evidenced by its commitment of funds.

**Caba Manager In October**

Richard Bowen announced his resignation in the summer to be effective September 30, 1981. Edward A. Caba was appointed Acting Town Manager effective August 31, 1981 through September 30, 1981. At a Town Council Meeting held September 21, 1981, the council appointed Edward A. Caba permanent Town Manager effective October 1, 1981.

On November 17, 1981 the Katherine Danahy School was officially turned over to the town administration by the School Department. The Town Council authorized its public sale by the Town Manager. This office hired a private appraisal firm to appraise the school and submit a detailed report regarding its possible uses. This office later conducted an informal public hearing for the residents of the immediate area near the Danahy School to obtain their input concerning possible uses.

By the end of the year, Westmass Development was prepared to make a full scale presentation to the Town. This presentation took place on December 11, 1981.

This office began, towards the year end, working on preliminary stages of the annual operating budget for fiscal year 1982-1983.

This office throughout the year continued to provide the public, town staff, and Town Council with pertinent information regarding the governing of the Town of Agawam. In addition, this office handles many, many requests from citizens, businesses, and outside organizations who require specific information, referral to proper town departments and agencies, etc.

Edward A. Caba  
Town Manager

# Town Of Agawam



1981 Town Council President  
**PAUL FIELDSTAD**  
**Report Of  
Town Council**

Accepting the resignation of Richard J. Bowen as Town Manager in September, 1981, the Council appointed Edward A. Caba as Town Manager, effective on October 1, 1981. Mr. Caba has acted as Interim Town Manager on several occasions when other Town Managers have resigned. We wish him success in his new enterprise.

Councilwoman Elaine Bonavita sent in her resignation effective June 30, 1981, therefore making it unnecessary to replace her as a member of the council, seeing it was so close to the Preliminary Election of members for a new council.

The operating budget for Agawam was adopted on May 26, 1981 (Revenue Sharing) and on June 1, 1981 the General Fund Budget.

Capital Improvement Program - May 26, 1981. General, Water & Sewer Fund Budget.  
General Fund Budget \$15,784,984  
Sewer Fund Budget 767,864  
Water Fund Budget 1,208,606  
Revenue Sharing Budget 835,850

For Road Construction - Street Lights - Police Salaries  
Total Town Budget - \$18,597,304

Several Ordinances were passed or amended through the year.

New Fee schedules were adopted in the DPW, Health and Police Departments.

Class II Dealer's Licenses were granted to Town Motors, LEC, Thomas Motors, Cuccovia Auto Sales, Riverside Auto Sales and Conversion Engineering.

This is the year that the Danahy School was closed and boarded up; pupils from that school were transferred to the Robinson School on Begley St., Agawam.

Manies in the amount of \$600,000 Water Bond were appropriated for constructing and reconstructing and laying aqueducts and water mains on North Westfield, Springfield and South Westfield Sts.

Outgoing President Fieldstad thanked the High School Building Committee and the Library Building Committee for their help and a job well done.

Citations were also presented by Town Manager Edward A. Caba to members of various committees on behalf of the Town; many hours were spent on these projects to make them successful.

**Donna Campbell**, Technical advisor to the Library Bldg. Committee.

**James Coon** - Technical advisor to the Library Bldg. Committee and the High School Building Committee

**Julian Miodowski** - Technical advisor to the Library Bldg. Committee and the High School Building Committee.

**John Stone** - Technical advisor on the Library Building Committee in formulating grants.

**Alfred Coscella** - This recognition goes back to the Old Town Meeting Library which was abandoned on Westfield Street.

**Thomas Ennis, Frank Locke and Roberta Doering** who worked on the Library and High School Building Committee.

Last but not least was the appropriation from Surplus Revenue (Free Cash) for the purpose of establishing \$600,000. in escrow holdings for Agawam's investment share of the Development of Bowles Airport Tract by West Mass Area Dev. Corp. under the auspices of the A.E.I.D.C. by a 14 vote.

Submitted by Council Clerk Rita S. Rose

1981 AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL 1982	
COUNCILMAN AT LARGE	
DeForge, Robert R.	Cincotta, Stephen R.
Cincotta, Stephen	Mazza, Peter D.
Bonavita, Elaine	Roberts, Dennis M.
PRECINCT 1	
Nardi, Frederick	DeLucchi, Mario John
Colli, Francis	Nardi, Frederick
PRECINCT 2	
Herd, William B. Jr.	Kerr, Walter T.
Kerr, Walter	Lacienski, Daniel J.
PRECINCT 3	
Bartnik, John	Rheault, Donald
Rheault, Donald	Shaughnessy, John P.
PRECINCT 4	
Theroux, Richard	Coppola, Thomas H.
Serra, Alfred	Theroux, Richard M.
PRECINCT 5	
Paleologopoulos, Paul	Gallano, Andrew C.
Gallano, Andrew	Paleologopoulos, Paul V.
PRECINCT 6	
Fieldstad, Paul	Lockhart, Benjamin T.
Trehey, Alfred	Trehey, Alfred
TOWN MANAGER	
Edward A. Caba	
TOWN COUNSEL	
Lambert Ollari	
1981	SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Walter Balboni	Rosemary Sandlin
Richard Borgatti	Walter Balboni
Roberta Doering	Donald J. Charest
Thomas Ennis	Bernadette J. Conte
Jessie Fuller	Roberto G. Doering
Rosemary Sandlin	Jessie D. Fuller
Venetta Snyder	Raymond Saracino

## Report Of Town Clerk

Births	283
Marriage Intentions	204
Marriages	203
Marriage Licenses Issued	201
Deaths	231
Financial Statements Recorded	305
Terminations	78
Business Certificates Recorded	54
Dog Licenses Issued	1,724
Males	866
Females	114
Spayed Females	733
Kennels	11
Sporting Licenses Issued	2,832
Gas Storage Permits	99
Recording Fees	10,775.34

THE ABOVE ARE THE RECORDS FROM JANUARY 1, 1981, THROUGH DECEMBER, 1981.

As in the past, the Agawam Town Clerk Office is a very busy office with the Fishing and Hunting Licenses, Dogs, Marriages, Deaths, Birth, U.C.C. Filings, Gasoline Storage, and many other duties that the Town Clerk is associated with.

My staff and I wish to extend our services to the people in the Town of Agawam.



Town Clerk RITA ROSE



1981 School Committee Chairman  
**WALTER A. BALBONI**

## 1981 Council Subcommittees

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE: AUDIT COMMITTEE**  
Paul Paleologopoulos, Chrm. William Herd, Jr., Chrm.  
Donald Rheault  
Alfred Trehey

**BUDGET COMMITTEE 1**  
Walter Kerr  
Francis Colli  
Richard Theroux

**LEGISLATIVE LIAISON**

Robert DeForge, Chrm.

Walter Kerr

Stephen Cincotta

**BUDGET COMMITTEE 2**  
John Bartnik  
Donald Rheault  
Stephen Cincotta

**UTILITY COMMITTEE**

Alfred Serra, Chrm.

Elaine Bonavita

Francis Colli

**BUDGET COMMITTEE 3**  
Fred Nardi  
Alfred Trehey  
Paul Paleologopoulos  
Robert DeForge

**BUDGET COMMITTEE 4**  
Elaine Bonavita  
Alfred Serra  
William Herd, Jr.

**SCHOOL BUDGET COMM**  
John Bartnik  
William Herd, Jr.  
Paul Paleologopoulos  
Andrew Gallano

**POLE PERMIT COMMITTEE**

Alfred T. Serra, Chrm.

Elaine Bonavita

Francis Colli

**ROUTE 57 EXTENSION COMM**

John Bartnik, Chrm.

Donald Rheault

Walter Kerr

**BARGAINING POLICIES COMM**

Richard Theroux

Robert DeForge

Walter Kerr

**HONORED CITIZENS COMMITTEE**

Walter Kerr

Stephen Cincotta

Alfred Serra

**STREET ACCEPTANCE COMMITTEE**

Alfred Trehey, Chrm.

Alfred Serra

William Herd, Jr.

Charles Calabrese (Ping. Brd.)

Harold Ellis (Ping. Brd.)

John Stone (Supt.-D.P.W. per ordinance)

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMPLEX COMM**

Alfred Serra, Chrm.

Paul Fieldstad

Stephen Cincotta



1982 Town Council President  
**DONALD M. RHEAULT**



1982 School Committee Chairwoman  
**ROSEMARIE SANDLIN**

## Report Of Police Department

The Agawam Police Department is responsible for patrolling 23.5 square miles, 120 miles of town streets, and providing protection to an excess of some 28,000 residents and \$450 million in property valuation. Within this are 50 liquor establishments, Riverside Park, two large shopping centers, seven smaller malls, seven banks, one credit union, a boating club, four golf courses, a water purification plant, a sewerage disposal plant and 8 schools.

In the year 1981, in excess of 15,000 recorded calls and over 10,000 service calls were answered. This is accomplished with 41 men and 12 police vehicles.

As with all other departments, we have felt the effect of proposition 2½: a reduction of manpower by three personnel, elimination of several programs, and a general austerity program.

The changes in personnel in 1981 were the retirement of Patrolmen Henry Drewnowski and William Colson, after 29 years of service, and the resignation of Norman Nardi, after 8 years service. Officer Peter Bertero, Jr. was appointed to the department.

After many years the communication system was updated with new equipment and a separate frequency for police only. With the support of the Town Council, this much needed improvement was finally accomplished.

Without any cost to the town, all men were issued new, modern weapons, replacing out-dated, 25-year-old weapons.

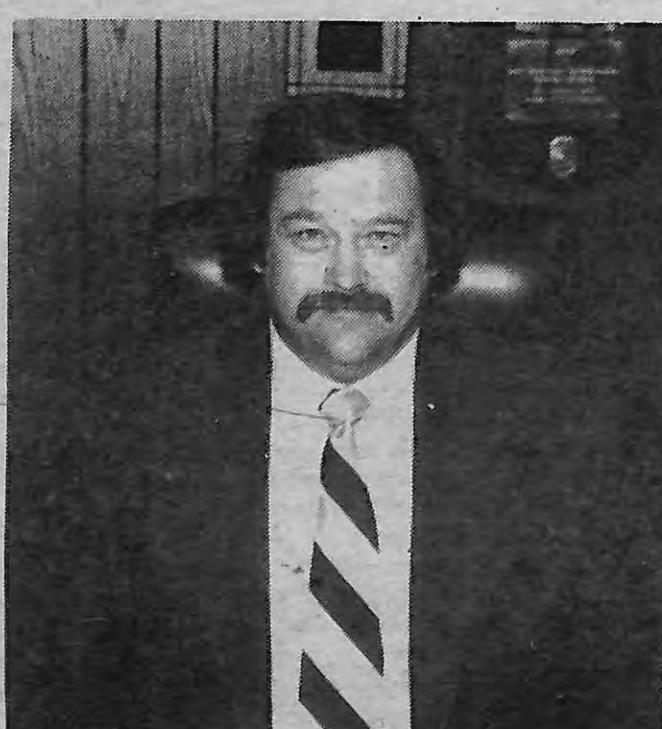
Our Crime Prevention Program had a great deal of success but was cut back with several other programs due to loss of personnel. Sgt. Longhi, our Town Safety Officer, again did an outstanding job with the citizens, children and schools of the community.

The annual town wide Halloween Program was another success. Forty members of the School Bus Patrol enjoyed a trip to Washington, D.C.

We will endeavor to provide our citizens with the very best service for their tax dollar.

Stanley J. Chmielewski  
Chief of Police

<b>1981 Town Committees</b>	
<b>AGAWAM COUNCIL ON AGING</b>	<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>
Reverend Floyd Bryan-Chairman Gwendolyn Lewis Ted Therrien Jean M. Clifford Edward D. McMahon Viola A. Smith Betty Mae Curran Daniel Binnenkade Florence Baker	Dorothy Nelsen-Chairman Helmut F. Flathman Robert Ayers, Sr. Elaine DiDonato William F. Smith Henry Kozloski
<b>AGA. ECONOMIC &amp; INDUSTRIAL CORP.</b>	<b>CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>
Richard Bellico-Chairman John Stone-Vice Chairman Richard Soderman Robert Bergin Robert Guidetti Edmund R. Jenks Chester Nicora	Stella Gallerani-Chairman Louis Draghetti Laurance Andrews Daniel Caraleo
<b>ARTS &amp; HUMANITIES COUNCIL</b>	<b>EMERGENCY ENERGY COMMISSION</b>
Robert Sands-Chairman Paul V. Sutton John Wiley Barbara Skalnick Geraldine Schilling Nordal Ruth Ashline Niope O'Connor Nancy Locke Jim Kallipolites Mark Fuller Jessie Fuller Sandra Dudek Sylvia Deliso Darcy Davis Ann Bradford Louise Amerman	Louis Draghetti-Chairman John Stone Stanley Chmielewski Julian "Lou" Miodowski
<b>BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>HISTORICAL COMMISSION</b>
Charlotte Haynes-Chairperson Geraldine Schilling Nordal Neider Nordal Mrs. Frances Warga Elaine N. Marieb Rosalie Hermans Frank Hess Sophie Demko Helen Lawrenchuk William H. Thorpe Bernard LeDuc Nathan C. Sherwood	Marilyn Curry-Chairman Geraldine Schilling Nordal
<b>BOARD OF HEALTH</b>	<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY</b>
Jane E. Nunn-Chairman John Negrucci David W. Page, M.D. Stephen R. Jacapraro, D.M.D. Eunice Johnson	Frank Chriscola, Jr.-Chairman James Harkins Nicholas DePalma Rosemary Sandlin Ted Therrien
<b>CIVIL DEFENSE</b>	<b>INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION</b>
James H. Loomis-Director Russell Newton Glen H. James John Balboni Ted Lockwood Joseph Conte, Jr.	David Gallano Anthony Maffeo Paul Delskey, Jr. Ronald August Francis Milliken William Kushin Louis Guevin, Jr.
<b>BOARD OF REGISTRARS</b>	<b>IND. DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL AUTH.</b>
Phyllis M. Mason Francis T. Vining Richard J. Rieker	David Gallano Joseph Lovotti Roger Proulx James J. Maroney
<b>LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION</b>	<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>
Joseph Dahdah-Chairman Richard DiLullo John J. Chriscola, Jr.	Charles Calabrese-Chairman Harold Ellis Dennis Hopkins William Pirani Louis Cichetti
<b>BOARD OF REGISTRARS</b>	<b>REPORT OF HISTORICAL COMMISSION</b>
Phyllis M. Mason Francis T. Vining Richard J. Rieker	The history book, <i>Agawam Massachusetts, A Town History</i> , by Edith Hull LaFrancis, published in 1980, continues to sell well. Copies are available at the Town Clerk's Office and at the Town Library on Cooper Street. The Historical Commission operates without a budget. Plans were made to do a complete historical inventory of Bowles Airport. The fact that the Arts Lottery never materialized put all such efforts out of reach for the present. Since photographs are an integral part of historical survey procedures, the completion of such a program will be delayed. We have been further advised by the Massachusetts Historical Commission in Boston, that, until further notice, no funds will be available for preservation, either through the State or the Federal Government.
	This Commission remains understaffed. Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Curry, Chairman



Chief Of Police  
**STANLEY J. CHMIELEWSKI**

# Report Of Collector's Office

The Collector's Office is the fundraising authority of the town. It is the duty of this department to collect all monies committed from various departments to meet the town's financial obligations.

The Collector has the sole authority for enforcing collection methods and fees prescribed by the state law and the keeping of those records.

The necessary functions of the department require specific knowledge concerning tax laws, finance procedures and business techniques. For the past several years the Collector and staff members have attended several seminars and schools necessary to maintain their expertise in these areas.

The following is a work-load schedule in this department as of June 30, 1981.

	No. of Accounts	Committed taxes
Fiscal 1981 Real Estate semi-annual	18,876	\$10,502,206.63
Fiscal 1981 Personal Property semi-annual	700	708,613.05
Calendar 1981 Water Rates - semi-annual	14,748	824,971.14
Calendar Sewer Use - semi-annual	11,400	387,498.20
Calendar 1980 Excise - annually	23,532	1,481,377.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,256</b>	<b>\$13,904,666.70</b>

\*\*\* The 1981 Motor Vehicle Excise tax commitment is not complete by June 30, 1981.

There are not many departments in Town Government that carry themselves with no cost to the town. However, the Collector's Office actually "earns" more money than it costs to run the department.

In Fiscal 1981 the source of this income was:

Charges on taxes for late payment	\$ 13,467.43
Interest on taxes for late payment	78,831.33
Sewer Use penalty for late payment	2,637.00
Sewer Use penalty for demand payment	1,454.00
Fees for Municipal Lien Certificates for Real Estate Transfers	7,350.00
Interest on Bank Account	4,938.78
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 108,678.54</b>
Total cost of operating department 1981	- 51,094.00
Net gain for the Town	+ 57,584.54

<b>1981 Real Estate</b>	<b>9,811,470.68</b>
<b>1981 Water/Lien</b>	<b>48,656.86</b>
<b>1981 Sewer/Lien</b>	<b>20,988.77</b>
<b>1981 Appro. Sewer Assessment</b>	<b>371.00</b>
<b>1981 Committed Interest</b>	<b>95.96</b>
<b>1981 Late Lien</b>	<b>366.00</b>
<b>1981 Demand Lien</b>	<b>348.00</b>
<b>1979 Appr. Sewer Assessment</b>	<b>12.00</b>
<b>1979 Committed Interest</b>	<b>2.04</b>
<b>1981 Omitted Real Estate assessment</b>	<b>330.00</b>
<b>Release of a Betterment</b>	<b>20.00</b>
<b>1980 Forest Land Real Estate</b>	<b>22.31</b>
<b>1981 Forest 1/3ond Real Estate</b>	<b>25.31</b>
<b>Police Duty</b>	<b>39.00</b>
<b>Sewer Use</b>	<b>359,541.45</b>
<b>Water Rates</b>	<b>728,895.66</b>
<b>1980 Real Estate</b>	<b>285,992.15</b>
<b>1979 Real Estate</b>	<b>122,703.53</b>
<b>1980 Personal Property</b>	<b>13,518.14</b>
<b>1981 Personal Property</b>	<b>671,740.41</b>
<b>1981 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>389,390.45</b>
<b>1980 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>396,570.24</b>
<b>1979 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>22,514.20</b>
<b>1978 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>5,295.40</b>
<b>1977 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>2,564.47</b>
<b>1976 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>1,561.38</b>
<b>1975 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>2,011.03</b>
<b>1974 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>1,892.56</b>
<b>1973 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>1,169.59</b>
<b>1972 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>750.28</b>
<b>1971 Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>461.74</b>
<b>Added Interest</b>	<b>79,091.71</b>
<b>Added Fees</b>	<b>13,469.43</b>
<b>Water Renewal</b>	<b>150.00</b>
<b>School</b>	<b>13,610.88</b>
<b>Highway</b>	<b>187.48</b>
<b>Veterans</b>	<b>19,336.80</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>4,608.00</b>
<b>Sewer Use Late Payment</b>	<b>2,175.00</b>
<b>Sewer Use Demand Payment</b>	<b>992.00</b>
<b>Sewer/ Acct/ Rec</b>	<b>4,520.55</b>
<b>Sewer Connections</b>	<b>32,085.00</b>
<b>Water/ Acct/ Rec</b>	<b>6,411.08</b>
<b>Water Connections</b>	<b>14,175.00</b>
<b>Water Meter Charges</b>	<b>6,900.00</b>
<b>Municipal Lien Certificates</b>	<b>7,350.00</b>
<b>1980 Appor. Sewer</b>	<b>20.00</b>
<b>1980 Committed Interest</b>	<b>2.28</b>
<b>1980 Water Lien</b>	<b>1,356.55</b>
<b>1979 Water Lien</b>	<b>990.71</b>
<b>1980 Sewer Lien</b>	<b>317.03</b>
<b>1980 Late Lien</b>	<b>56.00</b>
<b>1980 Demand Lien</b>	<b>60.00</b>



**Town Treasurer  
DAVID GALLANO**

Interest Earned on Investments				
Year	From Regular Funds	Stabilization Funds	Revenue Sharing Funds	Total Earned
1978	112,634	10,757	17,539	140,930
1979	160,149	12,701	23,679	196,529
1980	382,926	28,652	37,363	458,941
1981	475,053	18,237	45,570	538,860
	1,130,762	70,347	124,151	1,335,260

Earnings on investments become part of the town's "free cash" account. Free cash for fiscal 1981 was certified as \$1,420,276 and for 1982 the amount was \$1,814,655.

Proposition 2½ (Chapter 580) will eventually force the town to use up the "free cash" funds as it tries to offset the effects of a 10% plus inflation rate and the restrictive requirements of Chapter 580. Without these surplus funds the town will no longer be able to earn the four or five hundred thousand dollars per year now being earned. In addition, we will have to periodically borrow large sums of money to operate the town in between tax collection time at additional interest costs.

### Cash Receipts

A comparison of cash receipts accepted in the Treasurer's office during the past four years are as indicated.

Year	Receipts
1978	38,440,160
1979	39,005,801
1980	65,745,946
1981	98,454,778

The continuing increase is mostly based upon repeated short-term investments are re-investment of available funds. In other words, the investment program necessitates the handling of about \$70 million in turned over investments that resulted in \$538,860 in earnings.

### Amortization of Current Indebtedness

FY	Principal Payments	Interest Payments	Total Payments
1981	\$4,695,000	\$229,796	\$4,924,796
1982	4,055,000	199,130	4,254,130
1983	3,480,000	171,352	3,651,352
1984	2,955,000	143,585	3,098,585
1985	2,445,000	117,283	2,562,283
1986	1,970,000	93,635	2,063,635
1987	1,500,000	71,730	1,571,730
1988	1,095,000	53,095	1,148,095
1989	760,000	36,105	796,105
1990	424,000	19,195	444,195
1991	90,000	2,250	92,250

### Debt Authorized But Not Yet Bonded

Shoemaker Lane Planning	\$ 209,000
Shoemaker Lane Sewer	81,500
Shoemaker Lane Land Taking	20,000
Shoemaker Lane Water	259,000
Valentine Terrace	150,000
School Renovation	4,000,000
F.H. Sewer System Phase II	1,065,000
Sewer System Phase I	3,872,000
	\$ 9,656,500

Since 1973 the town has not borrowed, by temporary loans, in anticipation of taxes.

### Revenue Sharing Funds

Amounts Received to 12-31-80	\$ 3,806,391
Amount received in 1981	503,406
Receipts to date	\$ 4,309,797
Interest earned	213,644
Amount Expended to date	\$ 4,523,441
Balance on Hand	4,342,074
	\$ 181,367

### Stabilization Fund as of Dec. 31, 1981

Original Investments	
\$100,000 - April 1970	
100,000 - April 1971	
23,000 - June 1975	
20,000 - June 1976	
9,650 - June	

# Report Of Fire Department

The primary purpose of the Fire Department is the protection of life and property in the event of fire and other emergencies. The department is charged with protecting a present population of over 26,000 persons. With assessed valuation of properties around 450 million, this population and properties are spread out over 25 square miles of the town area.

As the population and valuation of the town has grown through the past years, so has the work load for the department.

In 1971, the department responded to 396 incidents, in 1981, we responded to 2157 incidents.

The present department is budgeting to operate with 55 permanent members and 15 call members. The department operates out of two fire stations, 1200 Springfield Street and 35 Elm Street. The town closed the Ottawa Street Fire Station in 1978. It was the understanding at that time that a new station would be constructed to replace the Ottawa Street and Elm Street Stations. Since '78, the department has been required to operate out of two stations, resulting in inadequate storage and operating facilities for the storage of apparatus and equipment, as well as inadequate facilities for the members of the department.

I am, therefore, strongly recommending that the town appoint a study committee for the purpose of constructing a new fire station to replace the closed Ottawa Street and the present Elm Street Stations.

The following vehicles operate out of the Springfield Street Station:

Engine #2, 1975, Maxim 1250 G.P.M. Pumper.  
Engine #3, 1948, Seagrave 750 G.P.M. Pumper.  
Engine #4, 1954 Military  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton, 4 wheel drive brush truck.

Engine #5, 1954 Ford Seagrave 500 G.P.M. Pumper.  
Ladder #1, 1969, Maxim 100 foot aerial ladder.

Ambulance #1, 1975, Chevrolet Moderate Ambulance.

This ambulance is expected to be replaced with a 1982, Ford Lexington Ambulance in early March of 1982.

Car #24, a 1978 Plymouth Fury assigned to Chief of Dept.

Car #25, a 1981, Volkswagen Dasher, Wagon, Assigned to Fire Prevention.

Car #28, a 1975, Ford Torino Wagon assigned to Deputy Chief.

The following vehicles operate out of the Elm Street Station:

Engine #1, 1965, Maxim 1000 G.P.M. Pumper.  
Rescue #1, 1974, Chevrolet Step Van.

Boat #1, 1971, Dill Quay 13' Rescue Boat & Trailer.

Engine #3, the 1948 Seagrave and Engine #5, the 1954 Ford Seagrave, both of these vehicles have passed their expected service life for active fire-fighting equipment. Many replacement parts for these vehicles are no longer available for the pumps and engines.

Many of the body, electric and running gear parts no longer are available. The minimum required needs of the department for pumbers is two first-line dependable pumbers with a good modern dependable stand-by pumper.

I am, therefore, requesting that the town purchase one new fire pumper and retire the 1948, and 1954, obsolete pumbers.

The department responded to 2,157 incidents in 1981. These incidents are divided into the following categories:

Building	86	Good Intent	95
Vehicle	37	Emergencies	1306
Grass & Rubbish	341	Mutual Aid	4
False	155	Hazardous Cond.	52

## 1981 Agawam Town Report



Acting Fire Chief RUSSELL JENKS

Total runs made by each apparatus:

Engine #1	303	Engine #2	309
Engine #3	81	Engine #4	135
Engine #5	194	Ladder #1	104
Rescue #1	305	Ambulance #1	1146
Boat No. 1	3		

Of the 86 building fires the department responded to, 28 these fires resulted in damages in excess of \$100.00.

The following is a list of these 28 building fires:

Total amount of insurance of buildings and contents

8,349,200

Total loss on buildings and contents

522,072

Total amount of insurance collected on losses

343,172

Of the 37 vehicle fires, the department responded to, 17 of these fires resulted in damage in excess of \$100.00.

Total amount of insurance on vehicles

34,926

Total loss on vehicles

45,226

Total amount of insurance collected on losses

34,926

The departments ambulance responded to a total of 1146 incidents for 1981.

These incidents are as follows:

Cardiac Calls 152  
(difficulty breathing, chest pain) (Cardiac Arrest)

Emergency Illness 334  
(Medical Problems other than Cardiac)

Non-Motor Vehicle trauma 249  
(injuries other than motor vehicles)

Fire Calls Amb. Response 141

Motor Vehicle Trauma 48  
(injuries from motor vehicles)

Misc. Calls & Refusals 45

Cancelled Calls 177

## Significant Fires in 1981

On March 14, 1981, at 13:44 hours, an alarm was received for a barn fire at Crowley's Commission Sales and Stables at 32 Shaemaker Lane. Wind conditions at time were high, around 40 M.P.H. Upon arrival of first due engine company, the main barn was fully involved in fire. Flying brands created an extensive exposure hazard to the area. Mutual Aid was requested from West Springfield, Southwick, and Suffield Fire Departments. Two horses perished in the fire.

An overloaded extension cord that was being used to run a quartz heater caused extensive damage to a dwelling at 38 Spencer Street.

Open burning in a rubbish barrel destroyed storage barns at 221 Rowley Street.

Careless disposal of smoking material ignited bedding in cellar at 128 North Westfield Street.

Rupture of electric extension light bulb ignited gasoline vapors that resulted in garage and auto fire at 462 Main Street.

An incendiary fire by vandals at 83 Roosevelt Avenue resulted in heavy smoke and fire damage to dwelling.

A floor covering propane torch ignited combustible vapors from flooring cement at Heritage Hall Nursing Home, 61 Cooper Street. Luckily this building is protected with automatic sprinklers; otherwise, it is a good possibility that there could have been loss of life in this occupancy.

Careless disposal of smoking materials onto bedding resulted in heavy fire loss to second floor bedroom at 463 Cooper Street.

The installation of smoke detectors at 74 Kathy Terrace saved the life of the Nolin family's child when a stuffed doll was ignited when the doll fell against a night light in the child's bedroom.

The Springfield Swiss Club, located at 690 North Street, was destroyed by arson on January 29, 1981.

Automatic sprinklers were credited with preventing extensive fire damage at Buxton Company Plant on Main Street when fire occurred from heating element left on for a hot melt gluing machine. Every fire occurring within the town, where a loss has occurred, is investigated by the department to determine the cause and circumstances for the fire.

Fire Prevention Education has been continued in the schools with programs presented to 1st. through 5th. grades. Various girl and boy scout troops have been presented programs. Programs have been presented to the nursing homes and industries.

C.P.R. and first aid programs have been presented to the public by members of the department. Members of the department have continued education in fire science and E.M.T. training and certification.

The department had three members retire in 1981.

A total of 82 years service was provided the department by these members.

Chief Harry W. Schneider was employed as a firefighter May 9, 1949, promoted to Lt. on November 22, 1957, and was appointed Chief of the department in 1961.

Lt. Robert S. Edmunds was employed as firefighter on June 21, 1961, and promoted to Lt., May 18, 1975.

Firefighter Francis T. Karakla was employed January 1, 1952.

Gary W. Schneider was promoted to Lt. on August 2, 1981. Lieutenant Schneider joined the department on May 28, 1972.

I would like to commend the members of the department for their support to the community throughout the year.

I would especially like to commend the members of the department who supported and served on the Ambulance Fund Drive.

The organization and townspeople who generously supported the ambulance fund are graciously thanked.

It is truly gratifying to see such support from the townspeople for such a worthy cause.

Continued support of this type will allow the Fire Department to maintain the highest level of service for the citizens of the Town of Agawam.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Russel Jenks  
Acting Fire Chief

# Report Of Planning Board

The Agawam Planning Board met regularly on the first and third Thursdays of every month. The board began its year with a complete membership consisting of Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman; Harold S. Ellis, Clerk; Louis F. Cichetti; Dennis B. Hopkins; and William L. Pirani. The Planning Board was counseled by Attorney Anthony Bonavita. Agawam's commissioner to the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission was Mr. Ellis, with Mr. Cichetti as an alternate. Before the end of the year the board saw the resignation of Mr. Cichetti and Mr. Pirani and the appointment of Gary P. Shannon.

Extensive research was done by Planning Board member Mr. Ellis, into the Anti-Snob Zoning Act, Chapter 774. The purpose of this research was to enable the Board to have a better understanding of Anti-Snob Zoning.

Also this year the Planning Board was requested by the Town Council to review and make recommendations on a proposed ordinance to amend the Code of the Town of Agawam enabling the Town to have more con-

trol over the installation of pinball and electronic games. This ordinance would require any business with one or more pinball or electronic games operated for a profit obtain a permit from the Town Council. The board was unanimously in favor of this ordinance. The Planning Board was also requested to review the 25% design for the relocation of Route 57. Following this review, the board submitted their comments to the State.

The Planning Board was kept active this with 29 Form A's being filled on various properties in the town. Also presented to the board were numerous site reviews, preliminary plans, and definitive plans. The Planning Board reviewed 4 applications for zone changes, the first beginning with Thomas Russo, Jr., who submitted, withdrew, and then resubmitted for a zone change on 204 Suffield Street. Frank Solitario once again applied for a zone change on Hubbard Corners, where he proposed to build condominiums. Also there were zone change requests for Leonard Rising on Poplar Street and Shoemaker Lane, and Matthew Buynicki on South Westfield Street.

# Report Of Board Of Appeals

During the calendar year 1981 your Board held 22 public hearings on behalf of citizens who petitioned for relief from the zoning by-laws.

We granted all or partial relief to 15 of the petitioners. We denied 5 the relief sought for a number of reasons. Additionally, we allowed one to withdraw his request and one person failed to show for his hearing.

We had one member resign from the board last May, and as of this report, we are still waiting for the Council to appoint a replacement. It has been most difficult at times to operate this important quasi-judicial board short one member.

The board wishes to publicly express its appreciation to the Building Inspector for his continued cooperation in helping to make our job a little easier.



TOWN ASSESSOR JEAN GOSS

## Report Of Town Assessor

The year 1981 was filled with frustrations and changes.

Revaluation was in the forefront and was our major concern. Trying to meet deadlines and trying to finalize assessments with the State Department of Revenue seemed an almost insurmountable task, but finally in December we received our first certification from the Bureau of Local Assessment, and we were on our way to preparing for informal hearings between the taxpayer and the revaluation company. These hearings are to be held early in 1982.

Our Town Assessor Ernest Dumont retired on Sept. 30, 1981, but prior to that time became ill and was on sick leave from the end of May. At that time Jean Goss was appointed Acting Town Assessor and on August 27, 1981, was appointed Town Assessor. Our thanks to Ernie for many years of dedicated service to the Town of Agawam.

During all of this, the Assessor's Office, which has been located on the first floor of the Administration Building since the building opened in 1942, moved to larger quarters on the second floor giving us much needed space.

We look forward to a very eventful 1982.

## Elections And Registrations

This year we have had numerous petitions both state wide and local issues to be certified as well as the nomination papers for people who were seeking local offices.

The referendum questions on the ballot in the November election were posed again to the voter asking whether a Mayor or Charter Form of Government and an Act exempting all positions in the City known as the Town of Agawam from the provisions of the Civil Service Law. The Mayor form of government was defeated as was the Civil Service question.

We have lost some of our fine councilmen - Paul Fieldstad, Robert DeForge, Francis Colli, William Herd, John Bartnik, Alfred Serra - either by defeat or they chose not to run again. We thank them for their fine job while in office. We welcome new Councilors Peter Mazzia, Dennis Roberts, Mario DeLucchi, Daniel J. Lacienski, John P. Shaughnessy, Thomas H. Coppola, Benjamin T. Lockhart. Welcome.

Also our thanks to the outgoing School Committee members Thomas Ennis, Vanetta Snyder, Richard Borgatti who worked untiringly. We welcome Donald J. Charest, Raymond Saracino and Bernadette J. Conte.

These elected officials worked very hard for the Town of Agawam. We thank them again for a job well done.

We also would like to inform the new residents in town that registrations of voters are every day of the week. Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. There is no residency time requirement.

The Board of Registrars would like to extend the following services to all residents who desire to become voters but are unable to get to the Town Hall because of physical disability. Please call the Town Clerk's Office (786-0400 Ext. 214-215-216 and 217) to make arrangements.

We would like to once again impress upon people who have registered to vote but have moved from one area of town to another place to please call the Town Clerk's Office so that we may put them in their proper place on the Voter's List for the next election. Unless we are notified, there is no way for the Board of Registrars to make the change. With your co-operation, it will eliminate a great deal of confusion and delays at the polling place on the day of the elections. It is not necessary to appear in person, just call the office.

The following is our total of registered voters as of November 1981.

Democrats	5037
Republicans	1538
Independents	6319
Total Voters	12,894

## Report Of Weights & Measures

I herewith submit to you the annual report for the Department of Weights and Measures for the calendar year 1981.

Massachusetts Division of Standards regulations, consistent with National Bureau of Standards National Conference on Weights and Measures agreements, require all gasoline pumps be equipped for full computing capability to eliminate half-gallon pricing by January 1, 1982, pressed our testing and sealing program in 1981. Many of our service stations which were closed were also re-opened, and each station's pumps were rebuilt to comply with the state's full computing capability requirement. In many cases, it was necessary for us to retest service stations. Many company's have not purchased registers that compute over \$2.00 per gallon, but rather are equipped for metric conversion should the price per gallon exceed \$2.00 per gallon. This conversion can now be made in a majority of the pumps now in service in Agawam by a minor adjustment and would raise the computing capability of present equipment to provide for its use over the next 10 years.

We also had more new scales interfaced with cash registers at one of our supermarkets. This is one of the steps that is usually taken prior to automatic check-out registers which utilize scanners that read the universal product code for totaling purchases instead of cashier's keying purchasing. There are now some scanner check-outs in Springfield supermarkets, and we may expect the greater use of these machines in the near future.

Due to the high cost of fuel, many Agawam residents have supplemented their heating systems with wood-burning stoves. As a result, many new wood dealers have gone into business. The determinations of the quantity of wood in a given area have been the concerns of buyers and sellers of wood which date back to our Plymouth Colony. In 1979, the Massachusetts Legislature amended the Commonwealth's wood laws. The terms cord, face cord, pile, truckload, truck full, and words of similar import are stricken from use in reference to the determinations of the quantity of "firewood" (any wood cut to less than four feet and more than eight inches long); "Cordwood" (any wood cut to 4 feet in length only); and may now only be offered for sale and sold by cubic measure, cubic feet, or cubic meter.

There are no requirements set by Massachusetts regarding the method of sale of log-length wood. Since many homeowners own chain saws, it is felt by many if they purchase wood in log length, they may save by cutting and splitting it. Unfortunately, unscrupulous dealers are indicating a greater yield from their logs than the buyer receives after he has cut and split his purchase. In many cases, the cost is greater than if the purchaser had bought cut and split firewood to begin with. In the absence of a method of sale regulation on log-length wood, a buyer beware position should be taken when contemplating the purchase of log-length wood for firewood.

The position of Sealer of Weights and Measures has in modern times evolved into a technical law enforcement position which not only requires the necessity to understand the mechanics of weighing and measuring device technology and packaging systems, but also correct court and police procedures to enforce state statutes. Consequently, governmental officials, retail business and industry representatives have formed the Institute For Weights & Measures at Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio, not only to educate weights and measures officials, scale technicians, and retail store managers in their respective areas, but also to promote professionalism in the weights and measures industry. In 1981, I was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Institute. The Massachusetts Weights and Measures Association requested the Institute for Weights and Measures to hold an educational seminar on weights and measures at the annual three-day association meeting October 1, 1981. The Institute For Weights and Measures invited me to serve as a guest instructor for the seminar. Since then, the Institute has invited me to join their faculty as an instructor. This post is geared for my assistance in training local sealers and scale service men and will not interfere with our work schedule.

The responsibility for cable TV matters is one of the duties given to the Weights and Measures Department in Agawam. In 1981, nearly all streets, where cable service was requested by petition, were completed. The town manager has negotiated streets to be completed in 1982.

We held a public meeting with the cable company officials at the Town of Agawam's Public Library last year, and we are making provisions for a similar meeting for input by the public to discuss with the cable company their concerns on our cable service.

We have received many complaints regarding subscribers not being able to reach the cable company. The company has added new lines to cope with the problem. However, when a problem occurs, the lines do become jammed and it does cause subscriber frustration. When this happens, you may call us at the town hall and we may be able to assist you.

Louis D. Draghetti

Sealer Of Weights & Measures  
LOUIS D. DRAGHETTI

## Report Of Consumer Commission

The Consumer Advisory Commission processed 166 complaints in 1981. The complaints included many different types of goods and services. About 30% were related to automobile purchase, service and/or repairs. Again this year, 90% of the complaints received were resolved, and we continue to have one of the highest consumer complaint resolution agencies in the state.

The dollar value of the complaints processed on the goods and services in 1981 was over \$210,000.

We are fortunate the Massachusetts Attorney General's Department has continued to sponsor local consumer agencies. Our commission was again awarded a grant from the Attorney General's Local Consumer Aid Fund this year. We are pleased to report this year we have received a \$1,000 increase in our grant.

This year, we attended the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) hearings on rate increase request and voiced, on behalf of Agawam consumers, our opposition to items which were included to justify rate increases. The Western Massachusetts Electric Company (WMECO) requested two rate increases in 1981. We made a suggestion at the hearing on their last request that the DPU establish an annual effective date rate increases are effective. We suggested July 1st to coincide with municipal budgets be the date rates granted would be effective.

Agawam, like most municipal governments, is the largest electric consumer in our community. Our municipal budget is just over \$400,000 annually. When an increase is granted in the mid-budget year, it has a profound effect on our fiscal funding. We feel it should not be necessary for a utility company to request, under any circumstances, two rate increase requests in the same year. It indicates to us, either the utility did not present a justifiable rate increase request in the first instance or the DPU made an unjust appraisal of the utility's needs for an increase. The town has joined with other Western Massachusetts communities serviced by our electric company to form a coalition to assure only fair and equitable electric rates will be charged. We have attended these meetings, and we are certain if over the past 3 years we have not collectively challenged the individual items presented by the electric company to substantiate their request, we would now be paying substantially higher electric bills.

Since the Attorney General's Office has sustained a staff reduction, he now has only six assistants assigned to public utility rate increase review. It is their responsibility to challenge rationale used at DPU hearings to justify additional rate increases. The DPU staff is also hard-pressed to keep up with utility rate increase requests. Consequently, we feel it is to our advantage to continue to belong to the coalition.

Due to the many calls our commission has received regarding cable TV, we again sponsored a public meeting at the Public Library with Commonwealth Cablevision's President Roderick MacLeod and his staff. Since many subscribers have again voiced their complaints to us about our cable TV service, we have again scheduled to sponsor another meeting on April 14, 1982, at the Public Library at 7:00 p.m.

The commission stands ready to render consumer advice and assistance on any matter of consumer concern for any Agawam resident or business.

Stella Gallerani, Chairperson  
Commissioners:  
Daniel Caroleo  
Larry Andrews  
Louis D. Draghetti

## Energy Commission

The Energy Commission was one of the town's most active agencies in 1981. We again attended many seminars and meetings on how to better manage the use of our energy. Lou Miodowski, Supervisor of Town Building Maintenance, continued to improve town buildings in ways to become more energy efficient. His efforts earned the town an Energy Efficient Achievement Award presented to the town by Northeast Utilities. Northeast Utilities officials noted, through energy-saving techniques, the town reduced fuel oil consumption from 480,000 gallons in 1973 to 186,543 gallons in 1980. The overall use of electricity in town buildings was also reduced from 3.6 million kilowatts to the present 1.14 million kilowatts. Lou Miodowski currently serves as the Vice-President of the Association of Massachusetts Local Energy Officials and has been invited as a guest speaker on energy conservation at meetings of governmental and school officials as well as private functions.

Under the commission, the Weights and Measures Office coordinated the fuel assistance program for low-income residents as Agawam is the intake agency with the Senior Center for the Valley Opportunity Council (VOC). The VOC is the CAP agency for Holyoke and Chicopee. Over 350 households were serviced with a dollar value of over \$175,000. This was more than 100 households more served than last year. It was also necessary for the commission to assist with our limited resources to keep some households from freezing. The seriousness of keeping people from freezing seems to escape the consideration of some individuals who are not in the unfortunate position of not being able to supply themselves with heat, particularly our elderly citizens who are caught up in the cost of living escalation and must sustain themselves of fixed income. Many of them hardly meet the lowest income requirements of our low-income guidelines and still maintain their own homes. The WARM Program (Weatherization Assistance and Resource Management) also inspected, cleaned, and adjusted oil burners in low-income elderly homes.

The town's Safety Officer, Alfred Longhi, and Town Engineer, Michael Suprenant, are in the process of updating our street lighting. This program is geared to providing more light but utilizing less electricity to power street lights. The Town Engineer is now working out the installation of the new lighting system.

The VOC also provided free weatherization kits for citizens to close out drafts and help make their homes more energy efficient under the VOC WARM Program. There were several meetings held at the Town Public Library and the Senior Center to give out the kits and demonstrate how to use them.

Our commission experienced excellent cooperation with the Valley Opportunity Council's officials. We were invited to serve on their fuel advisory board staff.

Louis D. Drogheitti, Chairman  
Commissioners:  
Julian Miodowski  
John Stone  
Stanley Chmielewski



Building Inspector JOSEPH CONTE

## Report Of Building Department

The following is the 1981 annual report of the Agawam Building Department. This year as in the previous year found Agawam leading all communities

## Report Of Town & School Building Dept.



Department Of Public Property  
JULIAN L. MIODOWSKI

Because of Proposition 2½, money for improvement of buildings and grounds was at a very minimum. When improvements are stopped, maintenance increases. This also puts a bigger demand on the Maintenance Department.

The budget for the Maintenance Department has not reflected a ten percent increase over a four-year period, yet economics can show a 44% increase or better. Our increase in the budget is reflected in the heat, light, and power area. In three years, we have gone up 17.5% or 5.83% per year. Yet in any given area, we have seen a 100% increase in oil, gas, and electric costs during this same period. Please understand, we heat and light an area equivalent to almost 500 homes.

Grounds vandalism remains the same with periodical ripping up of lawns with vehicles. The Feeding Hills Center Library Building has been set afire three times on the inside.

Danahy School was closed in June of 1981. This building has been boarded up and the security alarm system and fire alarm system have been kept on to avoid total destruction.

The renovation of the Agawam Senior High School was completed. In conclusion, the condition of our school and town buildings is in good shape with the exception of a few roof leaks which have recently developed and should be corrected in the near future.

Julian L. Miodowski, Supervisor  
Town and School Building Maintenance

in the state, with the exception of the Cape, in the construction of single family dwellings. This past year 430 building permits were issued, valued at \$4,205,720, of which 44 were dwelling units.

41 Single family	1,731,800.00
3 Two family	90,000.00
7 Garages	28,700.00
27 Business	1,167,000.00
156 Additions & Alterations	876,978.00
182 Miscellaneous	311,242.00
14 Demolish	.00
430	4,205,720.00

Major business developments were:	
Court House Assoc.	525,000.00
Carousel Furniture	110,000.00
Thorpe's Office Supply	85,000.00
Tommaso Cortese	60,000.00
Dennis Crowley	55,000.00
DePalma Realty	50,000.00
Stuart Amusement	43,000.00
Lucia Lumber	40,000.00

Monies collected:	
Building	18,871.50
Electrical	6,913.00
Plumbing	8,269.00
Total	34,053.50

Miscellaneous includes wood stove installations, which has become part of new way of life, and a serious inspection burden on our department.

The name Building Inspector under present conditions does not define itself as to the responsibility to the community. Not only does the Building Inspector issue permits and inspections of structures and land use, but also this past year 338 electrical permits and 634 plumbing permits were issued, 11 elevator, 58 places of assembly with more than 50 capacity were certified, also 92 new businesses re-inspected and responded to more than 9,000 inquiries from town citizens which dealt from a bird house to multi-million complexes.

Joseph J. Conte  
Inspector of Buildings

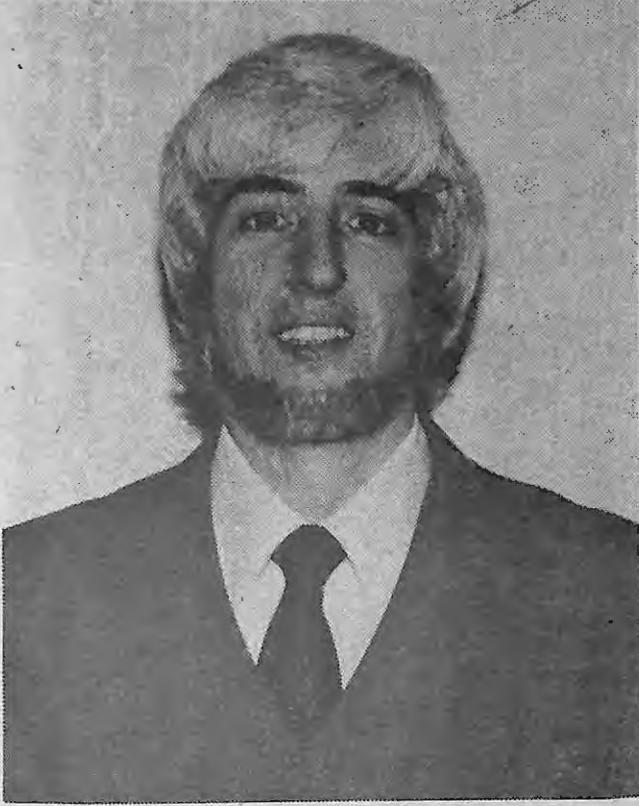
## Report Of Conservation Comm.

1981 was a relatively quiet year for the Conservation Commission as the economy continued to slow the pace of development. Twelve public hearings were held and eleven Order of Conditions and one denial issued. No major new projects were proposed; most development continued in already approved areas. Four determinations were issued. Seven Request for Compliances were requested; four were issued. Also four extension permits were issued. On-site inspections were routinely done when required. The Commission also provided input to the Planning Board regarding wetland issues on zone change requests and on Route 57.

The major problems the Commission attempted to resolve were as follows: a lack of enforcement by DEQE at Redwood Drive when it was discovered that the houses in the flood plain were not built according to plan. This problem has continued and the Commission is working diligently to resolve it. Also, the Commission is attempting to find a solution to the drainage problems at Ramah Circle.

The Commission was actively involved with the issues of herbicide spraying, low-level radioactive waste, and hazardous waste. The Commission also sent letters of support to our legislators in support of the Clean Lakes Bill and the Bottle Bill.

The Conservation Commission met regularly on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month. During the year two new members Robert Ayers and Helmuth Flathman, were appointed to the Commission and filled two expired terms. Election of Officers was held with the following results: Dorothy A. Nelsen, Chairman; William Smith, Vice-Chairman; Elaine DiDanato, Clerk; and Helmuth Flathman, Treasurer.



### DPW Superintendent JOHN P. STONE

The many services provided by the Department of Public Works touch the lives of Agawam's citizens more frequently and more closely than those of any other municipal department.

#### Dependable Service

Nearly every home, business and industry in Agawam and Feeding Hills is provided with a safe, dependable water supply for consumption, cooking, washing, industrial processes and fire protection. About 78% of the community relies on the Department of Public Works for sanitary disposal of wastewater from their residences or business establishments. Collection and disposal of solid waste is provided for all homes as well. Providing these essential daily services has done more to ensure public health than any medical advance.

Town streets, the backbone of the local transportation system, are maintained by the Department of Public Works as well. Daily, residents travel in motor vehicles or walk to their jobs, schools, shops and church over our public ways. The 120+ miles of streets in Agawam are maintained in a safe, passable condition by Public Works forces. Snow and ice are cleared; hazardous conditions are signed and guarded against; safe speeds, passing areas and crosswalks are marked for the traveling public. Rights of way are assigned at intersections via stop signs or traffic signals. Pavement markings are painted to assist the motorist and pedestrian. Streets are designed and constructed to safely handle traffic demands.

#### Other Services

In addition, many other services are provided by the Department of Public Works to ensure safety and well-being. Drainage systems are designed and installed to keep streets passable in all kinds of weather and to protect private property from flooding. Your Public Works Department keeps the driveways, parking areas and playgrounds of all schools and public buildings cleared of snow and ice. Nearly all municipal vehicles are routinely maintained by Public Works employees. Assistance is often provided to other municipal departments in the areas ranging from engineering and technical advice to labor and the use of equipment.

The Public Works Department attempts to respond to the needs of the citizens for new and improved services at the least local cost to the taxpayer. These efforts have become increasingly important in these times of tax limitations and budget restriction. Over the past five years, the Department of Public Works has generated over \$3.5 million in federal and state grants for construction of sanitary sewers, water mains, storm drains and a new public library. Also, we have begun to utilize federal and state assistance for street improvement projects. Within the next few years, several major street and intersection improvements should be possible at a minimum local cost.

In 1981 the property tax levy, the main source of income to town government, was severely limited by the passage of Proposition 2½. The Department of Public Works has taken the lead in reducing local government's reliance on property taxes. Water and sewer services are now operated completely on a user-fee basis and draw no support from the property tax.

The major problem facing the Department of Public Works in the future is that of providing the vital service improvements necessary to meet the needs of a community growing, not only in population, but in its industrial and commercial base. Money for future capital improvements and for maintaining existing investments and services will undoubtedly continue to be limited, while the needs and demands will continue to grow. The user method of financing water and sewer services will allow some of these growing needs to be met and our Engineering Division is undertaking more design work to reduce consultant costs and stretch available funds even further.

## Report Of DPW

### Fuel Savings Alone

The department also began taking steps in 1981 to reduce fuel consumption by acquiring more diesel-powered equipment. Two small diesel-powered pickups and a station wagon were placed in service with a resulting fuel savings alone of over \$2,500 a year. In addition, two diesel-powered dump trucks were ordered which will provide similar savings. By down-sizing the trucks slightly, the larger initial cost of the purchasing of diesel engines has been nearly offset.

In a renewed effort to prolong the life of municipal vehicles, a conscientious program of body repair was undertaken in 1981. The bodies of 18 mechanically sound vehicles (averaging 5.8 years in age) were restored. The investment in this repair work will be recovered if the life of the vehicles is extended for only one year.

The user-fee system is fair in that only those benefiting from the service pay to support it and their cost is in direct relationship to their usage. The Department also developed a "betterment assessment ordinance" that allows the Town to continue to extend its wastewater collection system to serve those with serious on-site disposal problems.

To aid in differentiating Agawam's vehicles from those of other municipalities and public utilities companies, Department of Public Works vehicles adopted green and yellow as their colors, and larger vehicle identification numbers were applied.

The remainder of this report is organized by division and service for purposes of clarity.

### HIGHWAY DIVISION

The Highway Division's operations involve the maintenance and construction of streets, drainage systems and related appurtenances. Work includes construction, paving, patching, highway marking, vegetation control, snow and ice removal, manufacture and installation of signs, sidewalk repair, and traffic signal maintenance.

Major accomplishments in 1981 include the repair and resurfacing of **Bridge Street, Harvey Johnson Drive, Roberta Circle, Edward Street, Simpson Circle, Valentine Street, Valentine Terrace, Sherman Avenue and major portions of Suffield Street, Silver Street, Pine Street and Witheridge Street.**

Storm drainage and culvert improvements were made on Valentine Terrace, School Street and Southwick Street by town-hired contractors. Town forces undertook drainage work on **Franklin Street, Cherry Street, North Street, Southwick Street, Industrial Lane and Federal Street Extension.** In addition, old drainage systems were cleaned along North Westfield and North West Streets.

Design work progressed on Shoemaker Lane reconstruction plans with work nearly completed by the end of 1981. A public meeting for citizen input on the project will be held early in 1982. Similarly the design of street improvements in the Walnut Street - Springfield Street commercial area was completed and the work of acquiring the necessary street layout revisions and easements is nearly completed.

Design work for intersection improvements at O'Briens Corner, Feeding Hills Center, North West & South West Streets, and Cooper Street at Main Street are in the final review stage. It is expected that at least some of these projects will be under construction in 1982, financed by federal and state funds under the Urban Systems Program.

Approval for the widening and reconstruction of portions of Silver and Suffield Streets under the Urban Systems Program was obtained in 1981 and proposals from consulting engineers for the design and environmental studies for these projects were received late in the year.

### WATER DIVISION

In 1981, the cost of the Water Division's operation was placed entirely on a user-fee basis for the first time. In past years the costs of employee benefits (medical insurance, pension contributions, workmen's compensation insurance, general liability insurance and uniform rental) were not included in the Water Division's budget but were paid from other areas of the Town's operating budget and financed by property taxes. These taxes were also the income for other expenses such as motor vehicle insurance, building insurance, heating, electric power, telephone, data processing, bill collecting, purchasing, payroll, and building maintenance. The change in methods of funding these costs as well as the undertaking of a long-range water distribution improvement program necessitated a sizeable increase in water rates.

#### Borrowing Authorized

Also in 1981 borrowing of \$600,000 was authorized for the installation of 16" water mains in Springfield Street from Mill Street to Feeding Hills Center, in North Westfield Street northerly to North Street, and in South Westfield Street southerly to Shoemaker Lane. These improvements are required as the existing 6" and 8" mains in the Feeding Hills area cannot provide adequate service and fire protection for the growing population and commercial development. Funding was also approved for construction of a 12" main in Silver Street along Bowles Airport to meet the needs of the proposed industrial park. Construction of these improvements is planned for 1982.



### Town Engineer MICHAEL SUPRENAUT

Water Division forces installed new mains in portions of Corey Street, Colemore Street, Witheridge Street, Taft Street, Valentine Terroce and Suffield Street during the past year to improve water pressure and service reliability in these areas.

#### Recent Water System Improvements

With recent water system improvements, much has been done to improve fire flows throughout the town. The provision of adequate volumes of water is a major consideration in the community's level of fire protection. When a revaluation of the town by the insurance rating service is made, sufficient flow improvements may have been made to enable the reduction of fire insurance rates for Agawam's homes and businesses.

### WASTEWATER DIVISION

During 1981 sanitary sewer service was made available to the residents of Valentine Terroce and to formerly unsewered portions of Valentine and Anthony Streets. The cost of this sewer project was financed entirely by a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant obtained from HUD by the Department of Public Works.

A solution to the problem of funding the Town's portion of the \$3,000,000 Phase II sewer project which would serve a large portion of northern Feeding Hills was developed during 1981. As a result, a construction contract for the project was signed in October, and the \$1,000,000 state grant for the sewers was retained. A "betterment assessment ordinance" was prepared by the administration and adopted by the Town Council. Under this ordinance, the cost of the Phase II sewer project will be shared by all involved. The residents directly benefiting would pay 28%, the Town - 38% and the state grant - 34%.

This funding system represents a return to the use of betterment assessments as a method of financing a portion of sewer construction costs. The practice had been dropped during the 1970's when large federal and state grants covering up to 90% of a project's cost were available.

#### Preliminary Grant

Near the close of the year preliminary grant applications were filed with the state for further sewer construction in the areas of **White Oaks Estates, Silver Street, Doane Avenue, North Street Extension, Royal Lane, Day Street, Chapin Street, Fox Farms, and Federal Street.** If this application is successful, a grant may be received late in 1982.

As in the case of the Water Division, the operation of the wastewater service was placed entirely on a user-fee basis during 1981. As basically only sewage treatment costs and pumping station related costs were formerly being met by the user charge, the impact of this action on sewer use rates was more substantial than for the water service.

### SOLID WASTE

The separate weekly collection of garbage from the backyards of homes was eliminated in 1981 as an economy measure. This service cost \$27,000 in the preceding year and was only utilized by some 15% of the Town's residents. The bi-weekly collection of rubbish at the curbside was continued and expanded to include garbage disposed of jointly with rubbish. This service provided by a private corporation under contract with the Town cost \$23.50 per home per year in 1981. A weekly curbside service would have increased this cost by 55%.

Work continued during 1981 on the proposed Regional Resource Recovery Facility which would generate energy from the area's solid waste. This facility currently offers the most economical long-range solution to the solid waste disposal problem. Negotiations

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**DPW - Continued From Page 8**

with the selected builder - operator began on long-term contracts for the sale of energy and the delivery of solid waste to the facility. If successfully completed, a contract committing Agawam to the project will be considered in 1982.

**ENGINEERING DIVISION**

The Engineering Division provides technical, design and administrative services to the Department of Public Works as well as advice and assistance to other town agencies, boards and commissions.

The Division is undertaking more project development and design work in an effort to reduce project costs. The Valentine Terrace sewer and drainage project was designed and supervised by Division personnel. During 1981 major engineering projects included the design of the Feeding Hills water distribution project and the Silver Street water main and sanitary sewers. Accurate ground control was established for the planned Suffield and Silver Streets roadway improvements. Also, land survey was completed and street layout revision plans prepared for the street and safety improvements in the Springfield Street - Walnut Street Extension area.

**Better Assessment Ordinance**

Much effort was also devoted to the development of the betterment assessment ordinance which enabled the Phase II sanitary sewer project to go forward to construction. The Division also prepared preliminary grant applications for the proposed extension of our sewer system discussed above.

Engineering personnel also assisted the Safety Officer in a review and study of the Town's street lighting system under the guidelines set by the Town Council. A report was prepared for further Council action with the aim of reducing costs while maintaining sufficient lighting for public safety.



**Town Prosecutor ANTHONY BONAVITA**

## Report Of Town Prosecutor

As Town Prosecutor for the Town of Agawam, I prosecuted over three hundred (300) misdemeanor criminal cases in the District Court of Springfield and over sixty (60) criminal cases in the Juvenile Court of Springfield. In the prosecution of these cases, I handled criminal conferences, criminal motions and criminal trials. The number of cases was supplied to me by the Agawam Police Department, Records Division.

As Associate Town Counsel, I represented the Planning Board and Conservation Commission at their weekly meetings. I attended their meetings when held, making requested decisions concerning Planning Board and Conservation Commission matters. I also researched law and gave numerous decisions for the Planning Board and Conservation Commission concerning zoning matters, wetland matters and agency jurisdiction.

Further, as Associate Town Counsel, I also handled several suits against or involving the Town of Agawam. Said suits were in District Court and Superior Court, respective to the particular suit. Four of said suits are still pending in 1982.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anthony Bonavita



**Health Director RONALD W. YOUNG**

## Report Of Health Department

The Health Department's operational functions consist of two basic categories. The first concerns the code enforcement of the various State Sanitary Codes, which are mandated by law, and the various regulations adopted by the local Board of Health. The enforcement programs include such items as food service inspection, septic system installation, housing code enforcement, semi-public pool inspections, rodent and insect control, various types of environmental complaints and other related health matters.

During 1981 the department expanded its code enforcement programs and increased the number of inspections made in all categories. These factors enabled the department to meet the continuing demands of our expanding population and to maintain a high degree of quality service in the enforcement programs to the community.

The second phase of the department's services is concerned with preventative health care. This involves a staff of seven nurses, six involved in the school health program and one serving the needs of the community.

The Community Nurse program is one geared to the residents of Agawam with primary attention directed to its senior citizens. Some of the many functions which are provided include home visits to the elderly, reporting and follow-up on communicable diseases, surveillance of premature babies, T.B. testing and the operation of various clinics, including well-child, blood pressure, immunizations, flu, diabetes, etc.

Although Proposition 2½ reduced our Community Nursing staff in half, our programs continued to function quite adequately and with very little disruption. During 1981 the blood pressure clinics at the Senior Center which were held once/month were increased to one/week to meet the demands of our senior citizens.

The School Nurse program involves various types of health care and education for the students attending school. They are also responsible for the continual surveillance of the students health needs which include physical exams, hearing and vision testing, immunizations, plus to be in continual contact with parents and others as to the needs of each student. Although many of the programs within each school are basically operated on the same principle each nurse has the responsibility to adapt these programs to the needs of the school which she services.

The school programs are operated very efficiently and generally receive very little attention. In 1980 the Agawam Schools experienced an epidemic of head lice, but the 1981 school year has remained very quiet with only sporadic cases being reported. Hopefully, through our constant spot-checking at the schools, we will be able to prevent another such outbreak in the future. Also, during 1982 another health program will be instituted in the schools. This program, mandated by the State, requires that all students in grades 5-9 be screened for Scoliosis. This program will be done by the physical education instructors under the direction of the school nurse.

The Health Department is pleased with the progress being made to improve public health standards in our community and will continue to work towards the art and science of:

1. preventing disease
2. prolonging life
3. promoting health and efficiency.

Ronald W. Young  
Health Director

## Report Of AEDIC

Pursuant to the provisions of General Laws Chapter 121C, Section 4, the following is the annual report for Economic Development and Industrial Corporation from January 1, 1981 to December 31, 1981:

Receipts - February 25, 1981	
Town of Agawam	\$15,000.00
Interest from February 25, 1981 to December 31, 1981	433.54
	\$15,433.54
Expenditures - February 25, 1981	
John J. Teahan, Esquire Professional Services	\$5,880.00
July 9, 1981 Kenneth S. Raffol Treasurer's Bond	42.00
	\$5,922.00

The chronological report is attached.

The Agawam Economic Development and Industrial Corporation requested the WestMass Area Development Corporation, formerly known as the Springfield Area Development Corporation, to undertake a study of the Bowles site as to its potential for industrial development. The AEDIC request was based on the excellent record WADC has had in developing and filling industrial parks in Springfield, West Springfield and East Longmeadow, and the fact that a successful industrial park in Agawam will add to the community's tax base, stabilize the tax rate, and create needed employment opportunities. We believe WADC's investment in the project will result in a large savings to the town in the development of the Park.

WestMass undertook a preliminary study and found the significant potential of the site warranted further analysis. Rather than ask the town for funds to pursue those studies, the Board of Directors of the WestMass Area Development Corporation voted to spend those funds out of its own treasury. WADC then hired a firm, Gordon Ainsworth Associates, to produce a physical feasibility analysis of the site. That analysis revealed, with certain improvements to the site, that it could be marketed and developed as an industrial park and would enjoy a good position within the regional marketplace. Based on the outcome of this analysis, WADC agreed to participate in the development of the Park and presented its findings and proposal to the Town of Agawam. The key elements in WADC's proposal is involving the public and private sectors of the Town of Agawam, along with the development corporation, investment partners. After reviewing the requirements by the Town for WADC's participation, the Board of Directors of the AEDIC on December 17, 1981, voted to recommend that the Town of Agawam proceed to implement the proposal presented by WADC. The Town Manager of Agawam also recommended the acceptance of WADC's proposal. The Agawam Town Council voted in favor of proceeding with the implementation of the project at the Town Council meeting held for this purpose on December 21, 1981. The AEDIC will continue to assist the Town and WADC in the actual development of the Park in 1982.

Richard A. Bellico, Chairman

## Report Of Liquor Commission

During the calendar year, January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1981, the Liquor License Commission consisted of three members: Joseph P. Dahdah, Chairman, Richard A. DiLullo and John J. Chrisca, Jr.

The commission meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Licenses in force during that period include the following:

FULL YEAR LICENSES	
All Alcoholic Common Victualer	23
All Alcoholic Package Goods Store	6
Wine/Malt Package Goods Store	2
All Alcoholic Club	9
All Alcoholic Veterans Club	2
All Alcoholic Druggist	4
Wine/Malt Common Victualer	2
All Alcoholic Innholder	2

Total amount of monies collected by the Town: \$44,335.00

The amount of \$847.00 was turned over to the Treasurer's Office. This money was for filing fees, issuance of 1-day licenses, issuance of 1 new license.

Seven violations were issued during that period. Of these, six (6) were warnings and one (1) was a suspension. The one suspension is being appealed. A decision from Superior Court is forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted  
Joseph P. Dahdah  
Chairman Liquor Licensing Commission

# Report Of Agawam Public Library

## INTRODUCTION

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness...it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us..." This quotation from Charles Dickens' book *A Tale of Two Cities*, aptly describes the third year of operation for the new Agawam Public Library at 750 Cooper Street. Moreover, it also describes the excitement, challenge, and frustration of coping with greatly increased library activity under the severe limitations of Proposition 2½.

At the same time, borrowing activity increased for the third year in a row. The total circulation of 176,133 for 1981 shows an incredible increase of 51% over that of 116,644 for 1978, the last full year of operation in the former library system. Of course, these figures do not represent the tremendous growth in Reference and Readers Advisory Services, Children's and other programs, meetings held in the Community Room and other in-house activities. Much of this immense growth can be attributed to the opening of our lovely new library in February, 1979, which had adequate seating, shelving and programming space for its patrons. In addition, Agawam's population grew once more from 24,305 in 1975 to 26,271 in 1981 and continues to grow.

Such an enormous increase in library activity is exciting for the entire library staff. Since public service is our highest priority, we are delighted to serve the many residents of the Town and share all the wonderful resources of the public library with them.

Despite the fact that the library is now experiencing the greatest period of growth in its entire history, it is also experiencing the devastating loss of C.E.T.A. personnel and the limitations forced by Proposition 2½ or "...the best of times, ...the worst of times," respectively. Not only did the library lose 3 C.E.T.A. S.T.E.P.S. employees in 1980, but it lost its last Title VI C.E.T.A. position in April, 1981. Thus, despite a more than 51% growth of library activities in the new library, the Agawam Public Library had less staff in 1981 than it had in the former, much smaller system. The existing skeleton staff has not only been burdened with increased open hours, a much larger building to operate and supervise, increased patron activity of 51%, but also with increasingly complex demands for Reference and Information services from a more educated and/or knowledgeable public and new basic services that a library of our size is expected to provide. Since the library is open the entire time, the staff is scheduled, employees must attempt to perform the enormous amount of "behind-the-scenes" work essential to operate the library in between serving patrons.

Therefore, as explained in last year's annual report for 1980, because the staff is already pressured by so many increased demands, it is impossible to assimilate the complete loss of C.E.T.A. employees without cutting services.

Most people have no conception of the many time-consuming tasks required to operate a library. It simply does not occur to the general public that if the library circulated 176,133 items, all of these materials had to be stamped out, filed, checked back in again and reshelfed. Of course, over-due notices and bills had to be sent for thousands of items not returned and fines had to be collected, counted and turned over when they were finally returned. Further, many patrons needed professional assistance to find these items. And, of course, each item had to be selected, cataloged, processed, organized, and shelved in the first place. Few people realize that stamping out library materials is really only the smallest, simplest step in providing library service to the public.

Another critical problem faced by the library was that library materials have increased in cost approximately 94.8% since 1974 while periodicals alone have increased 107.1% during this period. Yet, the Consumer Price Index, which everyone complains so bitterly about, only rose approximately 76.3% during this same period. Therefore, the economic crunch has hit the library even harder than most other areas. Although, the library was finally granted some minor inflationary increases for library materials in the last couple of years, such increases have not come anywhere near inflationary increases. Consequently, it is evident that such gross price increases for library materials, along with a 51% increase in borrowing activity in the new library have strained the library's materials budget. Unfortunately, these dismal economic facts have hurt the library's ability to serve the educational, informational, and recreational needs of our many patrons.

Despite all of these discouraging problems, many positive events occurred in 1981. Once again, considering that the use of library services and program for all age groups continued to grow during this extremely busy year, the positive factors outweighed the negative ones. The following items, which include statistics and facts about the library's many services and programs, show that 1981 was the most demanding, productive

year in our history. Such continued enthusiasm and support for the library by Agawam residents have fostered "great expectations" for the library's future by library patrons and staff.

## I. CIRCULATION

Once again, circulation soared in the new library from 166,439 in 1980 to 176,133 in 1981. These figures show a 6% increase in materials borrowed over last year and an approximate 17% increase over the first year in the new library. As mentioned, the circulation statistics show an increase of about 51% above the total circulation of all three former libraries. The library staff is happy that the initial excellent response to the new library has not only continued, but has even increased.

Library patrons have also continued to be very enthusiastic about the library's new record collection begun in 1979. Circulation of these recordings grew from 1,359 in 1979 to 5,715 in 1980 to an impressive 6,912 in 1981. These statistics show that record borrowing increased 21% over last year and 509% over 1979. It is obvious that the library's gradually expanding record collection, including Classical, Opera, Jazz, Folk, Pop, and other great music; Language; Literature; Speeches; Shows; Children's and other important categories, has been a tremendous success. As many people know, recordings are essential in order to appreciate and/or learn about great music, languages and a wide variety of other subjects.

Although these greatly increased figures are an important indicator of the immense growth of the Agawam Public Library, such figures do not include the growing demand for such in-house services as Reference, Research, Readers' Advisory Service, etc.

Further, the increases shown by these figures are all the more impressive when one considers that the library has had to place several restrictions on the number of items borrowed by any one person as well as implementing stricter overdue policies. Fortunately, such essential economies have not at all deterred Agawam residents from using their library.



Chief Librarian DONNA CAMPBELL

## CIRCULATION STATISTICS

	Teacher				Total
	Adult	Juvenile	Charge	Records	
1978*	74,732	36,675	4,999	238	116,644
1979**	88,528	47,232	3,089	1,359	140,208
1980	101,049	55,670	3,994	5,726	166,439
1981	110,523	58,059	3,036	6,912	176,133

\* All 3 former libraries combined \*\* New library opened February, 1979

## II. REGISTRATIONS

As indicated above, 1981 was the busiest year ever for the Agawam Public Library. As usual, there were many days when it seemed that all 10,997 patrons registered in the new library as of December, 1981 were in at the same time. The total number of registrations grew once again from 9,172 in 1980 to 10,997 in 1981, or approximately 20%, and this amount continues to grow. Moreover, the library staff also prepared 446 duplicate cards for patrons who reported lost and/or stolen cards.

## REGISTRATION STATISTICS

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
	1979	1980	1981
Total registered as of Dec. 1981	4,726	1,921	6,647
	1,853	672	2,525
	1,360	465	1,825
Total registered as of Dec. 1981	7,939	3,058	10,997

## III. INTERLIBRARY LOAN

The Agawam Public Library is a member of the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System. This vital cooperative network funded by the State allows us to borrow materials requested by patrons that are not owned by the Agawam Library from other libraries in the system. Any items ordered on interlibrary loan must be at least a year old, which means best selling and new popular works may not be borrowed. This system is provided to assist patrons who need more technical or specialized materials which are beyond the scope of our medium-sized library. Although membership in this system does not allow our library to neglect its own responsibility to provide basic materials for its residents, it does provide access to larger, more in-depth collections such as those held by Springfield and Boston. Therefore, patrons should always ask library staff for assistance when they do not find needed items in our library since we may be able to borrow it or it may be on order or in process.

The Regional System also offers free film borrowing privileges to local clubs, groups and organizations. Application forms for film borrowing cards as well as catalogs of available films are available at the Agawam Public Library. This service has become increasingly popular in recent years.

## INTERLIBRARY LOAN STATISTICS

	Books	Records	Films	Total
1979	407	12	101	520
1980	547	33	216	796
1981	567	31	241	839

## IV. BOOKMOBILE BORROWINGS

The Western Massachusetts Regional System has also meant regular Bookmobile visits to our library. This service has allowed the Agawam Library to borrow supplemental materials such as large print books, fiction and non-fiction and records for all age groups which, in turn, may be borrowed by our patrons. As mentioned last year, Agawam will be losing this valuable Bookmobile service as soon as the 1980 census (population 26,271) becomes official since this service is provided only to communities with populations of 24,999 and under. For this reason, it is all the more imperative that the Agawam Library make every effort to develop an adequate collection of basic materials.

Bookmobile borrowing activity has increased from approximately 1,776 items in 1979 to 4,002 in 1980 to 4,500 in 1981.

## V. OVERDUE MATERIALS AND FINES

The only unfortunate result of increased circulation is the corresponding increase of costly overdue notices and bills which must be sent for overdue materials. In 1981 the library sent out 4,148 overdue notices and 1,480 bills for long overdue items. In addition, the amount of fines collected for overdue, lost, and/or damaged materials and turned into the Town Treasury increased from \$3,352.36 in 1979 to \$4,446.28 in 1980 to \$4,835.03 in 1981. These figures do not include fines and book payments paid directly to the Town Collector. Long overdue materials seriously handicap the library because they deny other people access to these items and take up valuable staff time that could be used to serve the public better.

Last year, the library implemented stricter overdue policies to curb the loss of thousands of dollars worth of long overdue materials that the library suffers each year. The library began billing patrons for long overdues and when these bills were ignored, they were submitted to the Town Collector for collection. Moreover, patrons who owe fines and/or overdue materials are not allowed to borrow more items until they clear these debts.

In addition, the library abolished fine free weeks because it was found that this practice only encouraged people to delay returning items until there is a fine free week.

The library regrets having to take such strict measures, but they affect only serious offenders, those who keep overdue items for more than three months. It is these borrowers whose overdues are turned over to the Town Collector. So far, the library has turned in \$14,969.62 worth of overdue materials and fines to the Collector, showing that this is not a small problem. We would greatly appreciate it if the Agawam residents would return their long overdue items since the library cannot afford these heavy losses.

## VI. MATERIALS CATALOGING AND PROCESSING

This immense behind-the-scenes task has become a terrible burden since the library lost all of its C.E.T.A. workers. From April, 1977 to April, 1981 the library had 3 to 4 C.E.T.A. employees who did all processing of the library's materials, including a huge backlog that had developed due to staff shortages.

The total loss of C.E.T.A. funds in April, 1981, however, forced the library to use staff scheduled for public services to perform the essential duties of materials processing. Already, work output in this and

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## LIBRARY - From Page 10

other areas has been reduced due to staff shortages. This situation is not likely to improve as long as the library is denied another qualified typist to do such work. In addition to cataloging and processing the materials listed below, library staff members cataloged and processed 2,161 Vertical File pamphlets, mended 3,183 books, and checked in, organized, filed and shelved hundreds of magazines, newspapers and Reference supplements along with minutes of local meetings.

### MATERIALS CATALOGING AND PROCESSING STATISTICS

	Books	Records	Total
1977	3,648	3,648	
1978	4,149	4,149	
1979	10,772	124	10,896
1980	7,757	689	8,446
1981	6,230	484	6,714

### VII. LIBRARY PROGRAMS & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

#### Children's Programs and Services

In a continuing commitment to create a welcome, inviting atmosphere for children, the Agawam Public Library offered a variety of programs during the past year.

In-house orientations were provided upon request for groups from day-care centers, nursery schools, special needs groups, and for classes ranging from elementary through high school age. Also, upon request, and as time permitted, Jeanne Hofmann, Children's Librarian made visits with book talks to several elementary classrooms. Since most schools are without transportation funds, these visits are often the first exposure many children have to what library services are available to them, and we consider them essential to our outreach program. Other library staff members have been extremely cooperative about covering desk time for the Children's Librarian while she is in a school classroom, and only through this cooperation has it been possible for her to make these visits.

School and library services continue to be closely linked, as teachers have been requesting more and more assistance in curriculum related books and materials, and in finding books relevant to individual and special needs children in all subject areas. Parents rely on the library to assist them in finding books for reluctant readers, gifted readers, and all stages in between! This readers' advisory service is growing at a fast pace, as patrons are coming to the library now - with more diversified needs.

For children aged 3½ through 5, a series of six week pre-school story hours were offered in the spring, winter, and fall. These proved to be so popular that two programs of 30 children each were filled each week. Flannel boards, filmstrips, fingerplays, songs and stories presented by Mrs. Mary Lou Wilson, Library Assistant, kept the overflow sessions happy as they enjoyed their first social experiences with their peers, and discovered that the library is a place to both learn and have fun.

Once in elementary school, Agawam children continue to enjoy the library, as proven by the excellent attendance at our bi-weekly after school story hours. Built around such themes as animals, fables, and humor, these story hours serve to emphasize the joys of reading, as well as to introduce children to the best in new and traditional children's literature, through story telling, creative dramatics, and filmstrips. Also, children were introduced to such excellent popular authors as Beverly Cleary, Arnold Lobel, Jody Blume, Dr. Seuss, etc. During 1981, attendance grew to an average of 30 children per session, with a growing number of parents staying to share the fun.

Summer Reading Club for children in grades K up, once again drew more than 200 participants, who read and reported on more than 1851 books and had their pictures displayed in the "Hall of Fame." These children thoroughly enjoyed the weekly entertainments provided by professional puppeteers, musicians, story tellers, and theatrical troupes also sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association. A storybook parade featuring the music of the elementary school band, and the Summer Reading Club members in costume as storybook characters was a real attention getter, as 200 children marched around the High School Football field and into the library to rally for the cause that READING IS FUN!

Holidays were celebrated with special Saturday story hours and programs. Halloween featured horror films, scary stories, and a walking, talking witch. Santa came at Christmas to charm 125 young believers, while 3 Christmas ornament decoration workshops were held for the older children, providing 140 youngsters with artistic fun. We received grateful response for these, and many parents called to say that their children were enjoying making ornaments at home from the handout sheet we gave them.

National Library Week in April featured daily activities and story hours including fables and folklore.

In November, Children's Book Week offered programs for every age, including a puppet show by the Elfin Puppet Theatre. An innovative program for that week was a bedtime story hour for toddlers aged 2 to 3. They came,

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pajamas and all, with their parents and were entertained with activities and stories especially chosen for that age level. Participants were given a list of books recommended for the youngest children which are owned by the Agawam Public Library. Parents have requested more, similar programs, and we will try to offer them in the future.

All in all, 1981 was a busy year for children's services at the library, even though staff size was reduced. Interstaff cooperation as well as community interest and support continued to keep these services available. We may be stretched a little thin, but we are united in our common goal - of fostering the joys of reading for all of our children.

#### Adult, Young Adult and Family Programs

As usual, the Agawam Public Library conducted a wide variety of programs and activities for all age groups in 1981. One of the most successful programs that appealed to the entire family, including children, adults, parents and grandparents, was the monthly Saturday Film Program held throughout the year. This popular series, sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association, was planned to provide good, wholesome recreation for Agawam families. Several hundred people attended showings of *Benji*, *Snoopy Come Home*, *The Big Mouth*, and *The Incredible Journey* as well as the highly acclaimed Disney films, *Treasure Island*, *Mary Poppins* and *Babes in Toyland*. The many people attending these films expressed great enthusiasm and support for them.

In March, the Bennington Puppets presented a live marionette showing of *The Snow Queen* for the entire family. Over 100 children and their parents attended this performance by real pros.

As part of the library's National Library Week Celebration, Jingles the clown visited the library on Wednesday night, April 8th. This professional clown was overwhelmed by a wonderful audience of over 250 adults and children. Jingles performed magic, stunts and tricks in a most humorous way. After the show, the delighted participants were treated to balloon sculptures made by Jingles which they happily took home. On Saturday, April 11th, the library presented three showings of the movie, *Pete's Dragon* to wind up our National Library Week celebration.

Another April project of the library staff was a complete updating of the library's *Agawam/Feeding Hills Business Directory* for 1981 which lists names, addresses and phone numbers for local businesses. These directories are available for reference and for sale in the library and the Town Clerk's Office.

For the second year in a row, the Agawam Public Library, in conjunction with the Agawam Police, Fire and Health Departments, offered a three-part Baby Sitter Safety Program for Young Adults ages 12 and up in May. Mary Lou Wilson, Library Assistant, created and coordinated this well received program for which 93 teenagers registered. This practical workshop dealt with the many safety issues involved in child care and baby sitting. Certificates were awarded to the 48 young adults who attended all three sessions of the series and a list of their names is on-file at the library for Community referrals.

Another very informative program held at the library in May was a free seminar for adults entitled "Personal Financial Planning" coordinated by Donna Campbell. This program, conducted by John Dabakis of Investors Diversified Services, Inc., and attended by approximately 75 adults was very well received.

The summer is one of the library's busiest seasons and 1981 was certainly no exception. For the first time in the library's history, a huge Book Sale was held under a tent on the library's back lawn on Saturday, June 27th. This sale was coordinated by Norman McMahon, Chairman and Donna Campbell, Chief Librarian and was a smashing success. Hundreds of people of all ages visited the sale to purchase inexpensive books, to enjoy refreshments and to socialize. Naturally, the Chief Librarian could not resist selecting some choice items to add to the library's collection from the hundreds of books so generously donated by the public for the sale.

A whole summer of movie fun for the entire family began on July 2nd and continued every Thursday evening for ten weeks. The program, planned and coordinated by Susan Wolfe and Donna Campbell, featured family entertainment for all ages. Some of the most popular films shown were the Disney movies, *101 Dalmatians*, *The Shaggy Dog* and *Gus* as well as the classics, *Heidi*, *The Black Pirate*, *The African Queen* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. These popular shows were attended by groups of 150 to 200 children, teenagers, and adults.

A special live performance for adults of the Broadway play, *The Fantasticks*, was presented by the Rag-A-Muffin Stage Company II from Wooster, Ohio on Wednesday evening, July 29th. This long running musical, a raucous tale of pirates, bandits and Indians, delighted the crowd of approximately 100 people who attended. The performance was sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association.

Some 40 adults and children attended the fascinating program, "Cosmos: the Voyage to the Stars and

Selected Space Topics" on Tuesday evening, August 4th. Conducted by James R. Yankee, Director of the Enrica Fermi Planetarium in Enfield, Connecticut, this program consisted of the movie "Cosmos," narrated by Carl Sagan, and slides and discussions about space. Participants observed the night sky through a telescope provided by Mr. Yankee and viewed a special exhibit from NASA Space Shuttle system.

Fall programs at the library began on Tuesday evening, September 29th with a talk by a local author, Linda Fuller, who wrote *Trips and Trivia*, a book about day trips and recreation in Western Massachusetts. Adults and senior citizens attending the lecture learned about places of historical and recreational interest in the area.

Due to popular demand, 2 sessions of a Financial and Estate Planning Seminar were presented in October. Approximately 90 people attended this informative workshop coordinated by Bonnie Vigeland.

In addition to these library programs, the library's Community Room was used for numerous meetings of the Town Council, town departments, and local groups and organizations. These meetings supported a wide variety of political, informational, educational, athletic, cultural and social needs of the Community.

Throughout the year, the Agawam Public Library was an active community center for all Agawam residents with hundreds of people using the library on a regular basis. Certainly, there was rarely a dull moment at the Agawam Public Library.

### VIII. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The Agawam Public Library is proud to report that many staff members continued their professional education this year. Susan Wolfe completed a Master's degree in Library Science while George Galvin and Mary Lou Wilson took courses in library science during the year.

Upon the retirement of Lee Levy in 1981, the library was allowed to upgrade the position and hire a professional Reference/Adult Services Librarian. The library was fortunate to hire Bonnie Vigeland, who holds a Master's Degree in Library Science and a Master's Degree in Comparative Literature. It is the goal of the library staff to offer the public professional, efficient and friendly service at all times. As the library now handles increasingly complex reference, information and research queries from students of all ages and from general public, it is very proud of its highly qualified staff.

### IX. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Once again, in 1981 there were several people who have tremendous amounts of time and effort to assist the library with some of its time consuming routine services. These people made it possible for library staff members to serve the public better since the staff was freed from such tasks as slipping, book processing, mending, filing, pasting, etc. On behalf of the Town of Agawam, the entire library staff would like to thank the following people who volunteered so generously.

Barbara Hodges  
Ruth Nasif  
Myrtle Bryson

Johanna Paleologopoulos

Arline Vincent

Phyllis Cummings  
Doris Catchespaugh  
Lisa Di Tomaso  
Gwendolyn Lewis

Phyllis Bryan

Although the library staff was sorry when Doris Catchespaugh retired after many years of dedicated service, the staff was delighted when Mrs. Catchespaugh decided to volunteer once a week on a regular basis. Our dedicated volunteers have enabled the library to offer more and better services than would have been possible with our limited staff.

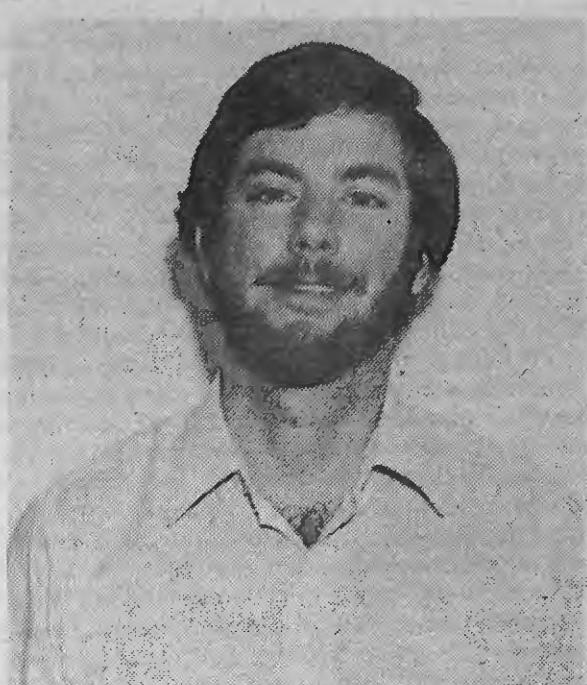
### X. PHOTOCOPYING SERVICES

Throughout the year the Agawam Public Library continued to offer excellent quality copies for very low prices. Money collected by the library for Xerox copies is turned over to the Town Treasury to offset rental and supply costs paid by the Town as well as staff and overhead costs. In 1980, the library turned in \$2,366 and in 1981, the library turned in \$3,400 in copier monies received. This popular service is just one more area that continues to grow at the Agawam Public Library.

### SUMMARY

Finally, 1981 was a fairly good year for the Agawam Public Library despite the critical staff shortages that it experienced during the latter half of the year. In this era of Proposition 2½, illiteracy, high crime rates, censorship and other ominous issues, it is hoped that Agawam residents will remember that free public libraries as conceived by Benjamin Franklin were initially designed to meet the needs of a democratic free society regardless of income, social status, etc. To quote the fine words of Charles Dickens once again, "I only ask to be free. The butterflies are free. Mankind will surely not deny to Harold Skimpole what it concedes to the butterflies" (*Bleak House*). Judging by the enthusiastic response and its Town officials in the past, it seems likely that our free public library will continue to thrive in the future so that our children and all Agawam people can be free to benefit from the library's unbiased educational, informational, cultural and recreational resources and services.

Donna M. Campbell  
Chief Librarian



COUNSELING DIRECTOR ROBIN CLARK

## Report Of Counseling And Youth Services

1981 was a year of significant change for our agency. Through the diligent efforts of a task force composed of the Youth Commission and members of the SPAN Board, the merger of SPAN Counseling Center and the Agawam Youth Center became a reality in July. This merger resulted in an immediate savings of over \$21,000 in town funds.

During 1981 A.C.Y.S.C. received financial support from the Town of Agawam, the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Social Services, the Shurtleff Foundation and contributions from private and charitable organizations. These funds made it possible for us to offer services free of charge or at a greatly reduced cost to most clients. A small but significant portion of our budget was generated through fees for service.

The merger helped us absorb funding cuts for FY 81-82 without a significant reduction in service. Budget reductions will not be so easily absorbed in the coming year.

Over 80 percent of the people who received services from A.C.Y.S.C. were residents of Agawam, pointing out the need for locally based services. Approximately 60 percent of those who received services were under the age of 18.

The almost 600 people served participated in one or more of a wide range of programs including individual and family therapy, support groups and group counseling, special programs for children and youth and preparation for the G.E.D.

Referrals came from a variety of sources including juvenile and adult probation, area agencies and hotlines, friends, family members and others. We are particularly pleased that the Agawam Public Schools are making good use of our services and hope to further strengthen that relationship over the coming year.

In addition to those who participate in Center programs, many people use us for advice over the telephone or a one-time consultation. Although these people rarely generate fees or show up in our statistics, they are an important part of the population we serve. The advantage of a local community-based program is that we are willing and able to offer services of this type which might not be available elsewhere. A.C.Y.S.C. has a strong commitment to continuing these intangible but important services.

The coming year promises to be a difficult one for human service agencies and A.C.Y.S.C. is no exception. We hope that the steps we have taken this year and the community support we have received for so many years will see us through this period.

## Report Of Beautification Comm.

The Beautification Committee for the year 1981 added raised log flower beds of annuals at Federal & Main Sts. and Elm St. A pink rhododendron was planted at the boulder at Federal & Main. Urns were placed at either side of the front door of the Town Hall as well as ground plantings on either side with our usual red, white and gold annuals.

All beds were thoroughly fertilized as is evidenced in the profusion of color in our flower beds for which we have had favorable acceptance by the public.

Letters of commendation were sent to businesses who have continuously maintained their property with the excellence that earned them the original "Beautification Certificate." Five new businesses have received this award in 1981.

Again my deepest appreciation goes out to my small committee for another extremely successful year.

Charlotte Haynes  
Chairperson

## Report Of Data Processing

The Data Processing Department continues to service all departments within the school system as well as the town hall. During the past year, a complete new census system was developed to aid the Town Clerk's office in keeping their records up-to-date and also furnish them with accurate reports. These reports consist of street listings by precinct, voter list, dog list and the ability to produce mailing labels for a selected precinct.

The Data Processing Department is constantly adding new systems for both town and school, along with changing or adding programs to existing systems. While this eases the burden on the various departments which rely on the services furnished by Data Processing, it has greatly increased the work load on both the computer and Data Processing personnel. This increased work load and the need for instant access to information stored within the computer, along with projected needs for new sophisticated systems, such as a real estate "Appraisal System," has created a need for a replacement of our current computer system. During the year both town and school officials, along with the Data Processing Manager, met to discuss these future needs. A consultant was hired to do a comprehensive study of both town and school departments currently using Data Processing services to a great extent along with those only using these services on a limited basis.

The results of this study indicated that the "Town of Agawam" has a well-run Data Processing system. This study also pointed out the main limitation imposed on the Data Processing operation is that of inadequate computer hardware and software to accomplish the total Data Processing needs of both town and school. The "Requests for Proposals" was sent to all the major computer hardware and software vendors, and a general meeting was scheduled with these same vendors to answer any questions prior to their submitting a proposal. These proposals were received from the various vendors and carefully reviewed by both town and school officials and the consultant. The vendors were then selected on the basis of the proposals they submitted and were requested to meet for a more detailed review of their proposals. This has been done and one more meeting is scheduled with the three prospective vendors. It is hoped a final selection will be made sometime in February of 1982. Once the entire package has been put together, it will be presented to the Town Council and the School Committee for approval. If approval and subsequent funding is met, then the signing of a contract will be made and work will begin immediately on converting to the new system.

One of the problems in the past has been the lack of space in the Data Processing Department. It is hoped that this will be taken care of before the arrival of any new equipment, as it will be necessary to support a dual system until all systems are converted and thoroughly tested. Some of the possibilities are as follows:

- A. Expand current Data Processing facilities by acquiring adjoining classroom.
- B. Relocate to larger area at the High School.
- C. Relocate to one of the vacant facilities owned by the Town.
- D. Build a new facility from the ground up.

Whatever method is decided upon, it will be a great improvement over the current crowded conditions that now exist.

## Report Of Law Department

In 1981, the Law Department was involved in various areas of the law, while representing the interest of the municipality.

More specifically, during the past year, Town Counsel, as the agent of the Town Manager and municipal corporation, negotiated contracts with various individuals and business entities. Town Counsel and Associate Town Counsel, with the assistance of special legal consultants, handled many cases, such as zoning, collective bargaining, arbitration, Civil Service hearings and civil suits.

As Town Counsel, it was the responsibility of the office to attend Town Council meetings and any other special meetings which a representative of the Law Department was requested to attend. Many questions were submitted to the Law Department which required extensive legal research. Some of the areas that were highlighted are as follows: proposed industrialization of Bowles Airport, interpretation of the Town Charter, and numerous sections of Massachusetts General Laws Annotated, which were applicable to the every day operation of the municipal corporation.

In addition to the above, members of the Law Department made themselves available to various town department heads and personnel to answer any legal questions, and to assist in creating businesslike relationships between legal department and town personnel.

Respectfully submitted  
Lambert R. Ollari



VETERANS AGENT JOHN McCARTHY

## Report Of Veterans' Services

Western Hampden District Veterans' Service Department, representing Agawam, Southwick, Granville and Tolland, is located in the Annex, rear of the Town Hall, Agawam. Telephone number is 786-0400, extension 236 or 237. Business hours are from 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday except Holidays. For your convenience, we suggest that you call ahead for an appointment.

The Veterans' Service Department has had a very busy and interesting year. We continue to serve the veteran and his dependents at a high level. The office calls and personal contacts numbered several thousand.

Services consist of advice to veterans and dependents on types of services, benefits, armed forces problems and appeals, helping to complete forms, hospitalization and domiciliary care, medical problems, retirement matters (federal) and rehabilitation and social security matters.

During the fiscal year 1980-1981, this department extended aid for ordinary benefits, fuel, doctors, medication, dental, hospital and miscellaneous expenses in the amount of \$64,097.00, 50% (\$32,048.50) of which was reimbursed to the Town by the Commonwealth, as mandated under Chapter 115.

Under the Veterans Administration "Federal Program," compensation and non-service connected pensions for veterans, widows, and school benefits for children of deceased veterans amounted to over two million dollars. This money is sent to the recipients directly from the U.S. Government, helps in reducing the Veterans Service Budget, and is a direct savings to the Town of Agawam.

Veterans who have not registered their discharge with the District Office are urged to do so. Your original DD 214 will be photocopied and returned. These discharges are important to the veteran and also to survivors that may be entitled to V.A. Benefits. If you have lost or misplaced your discharge, we can apply for a replacement.

The Veterans Service Department is privileged to help veterans and their dependents obtain benefits. All veterans, as well as their dependents, must be afforded the opportunity to apply for and receive benefits they are entitled to. Remember, you are not entitled to any benefits unless you apply for them.

Respectfully submitted,  
John J. McCarthy  
Director of Veterans' Services





HOUSING DIRECTOR PHYLLIS MASON

## Report Of Housing Authority

The Agawam Housing Authority through state subsidy operates three low-income elderly housing projects consisting of 156 units, which include eight units specially designed for handicapped persons of any age and one low-income family project for veterans consisting of 44 units.

The elderly projects consist of 40 units at Country View, which is located at 95 No. Westfield St. in Feeding Hills, 52 units at Colonial Haven at 886 Main St. and 64 units at Meadowbrook Manor off Wright St. To qualify for elderly housing, a person must be at least 65 years of age, in need of safe and sanitary housing and with net income not to exceed \$7840 for an individual and \$8960 for a couple. During the year eighteen vacancies were filled in the elderly projects.

The veterans project is J. J. Brady Village located at 775 Springfield St. in Feeding Hills. To qualify, a family must consist of a veteran or be the family of a veteran, be of low income and in need of safe and sanitary housing. There are different income limits according to family size. During the year, five vacancies were filled at this project.

We applied for 100 more units of elderly housing under Chapter 667 and 25 units of family housing under Chapter 705. There were not enough state funds available for all authorities that applied, therefore, we were not able to be funded.

We affiliated with a Westfield Area Mental Health and Retardation Board in an effort to develop a Chapter 689 program for a community residence for from four to six mentally retarded children in Agawam.

This Authority has notified the town that we would like to obtain the Katherine Danahy School (closed earlier this year due to declining enrollment) for the purpose of elderly housing conversion.

We turned over to the Town of Agawam a check in the amount of \$100,000 which represented a surplus after building our Meadowbrook Manor development, due to careful planning and investment.

An engineer has been engaged to draw up plans and specifications to modernize the heating system at Brady Village. It is expected to go out to bid in 1982.

New lease agreements were put into effect as directed by the state so that all housing authorities in the state now conform to the same lease.

New storm doors were installed on the two rear doors of the Senior Center in order to save on energy.

Exterior painting of Country View was begun and will be completed in the spring.

Officers serving for 1981 were Frank Chriscola, Jr. as chairman; James Harkin as vice chairman, Rosemary Sandlin as treasurer, Nicholas DePalma as assistant treasurer and Theodore Therrien as clerk.

## Tree Warden's Report

This report for 1981 centered around trimming and removal of trees in various parts of town.

We had no major storms to damage trees as the tornado did a few years ago.

Tree planting does not exist with our budget and a tree nursery is our only hope for replacing town trees.

The Gypsy Moth is still in great numbers, but the townspeople are coping with this problem in their own way by contact spraying, banding, spraying with their own equipment, and better understanding of the situation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elmer Cascio, Tree Warden

## Report Of Senior Center

Judging from the growing participation, the Agawam Senior Center continues to be the focal point for many of the town's elderly. It offers them a great variety of programs and activities.

The daily highlight is the Lunch Program. Thanks to increased food commodities and new additional items like whole turkeys, pineapple, apricots, raisins and prunes, we have been able to offer very attractive menus. The Meal-on-Wheels is essential for shut-ins and sick and enable them to stay in their homes instead of having to go to the nursing home.

The PVTA chair-lift van benefits a smaller group than the nutrition program, but for those who are in wheelchairs or have no car, the van becomes the lifeline to the outside world. Unfortunately the bus had many breakdowns this year, and we are looking forward to a new one in early spring. Until July 1, 1981, the rides were free; however, a 4% cap on the PVTA budget necessitated the introduction of fares. A one-way trip in town is 15 cents, out of town 25 cents.

Our community aide assists seniors with insurance claims, fuel assistance forms, landlord trouble, medical bills and also counsels. New members get the popular blue discount card and are informed of programs and benefits available. The popular monthly bus trips are planned by Dorothy.

Various medical clinics are faithfully attended by those who appreciate the personal service as well as the convenience of time and location. Hypertension, blood sugar, flu shots and foot clinics have become routine services. The annual free tax counseling service is offered by the AARP.

Exercise, dancing, quilting, needlepoint, crocheting, knitting, woodworking and oil painting are ever popular classes. The annual art show of Mrs. Alice Hulse's oil painting class has become a successful tradition. Angela Bachelder had a one-woman show which was attended by many seniors. The annual bazaar in November is made possible by the many dedicated seniors who give freely of their time and talent. The proceeds will be used to subsidize bus trips and our special parties.

## Civil Defense Report

The year of 1981 has been an active year as we began to organize and put in place the federal relocation plan for the Town of Agawam. I still have to meet with D.P.W. and fire for their input before finalizing the plan for submission to the State and Federal authorities.

The plan for relocating C.D. headquarters is still in a state of flux because of several logistic problems that are being worked out with the necessary parties.

I have attended several meetings with the safety officer this year to keep us updated with State and area C.D. headquarters. Our Mobile Unit has been used on several occasions in joint operations with REACT teams in the area.

Goals for next year are to begin to implement informational releases for the citizen as regards the relocation plan on a local, area, state and national basis. I also hope that with the help of the whole civil defense or (civil preparedness) team the local relocation of our C.D. central can be in its final stage and partially if not completely accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,  
James H. Loomis, Jr.  
Director Civil Defense

SR. CENTER DIRECTOR  
MARGARET TAEGER

## Town Accountant



CAROL TAYLOR

## Superintendent Of Schools



JAMES V. BRUNO, JR.

# Report Of Town Accountant

TOWN OF AGAWAM	
BALANCE SHEET - JUNE 30, 1981	
ASSETS	LIABILITIES and RESERVES
Net Cash	85,219,412.40
Regular	85,219,412.40
Immobilization Fund	126,611.63
	<b>85,346,024.03</b>
by Cash Advances	256.00
Accounts Receivable:	
Taxes:	
Levy of 1975	
Personal Property	3,469.69
Levy of 1976	
Personal Property	3,091.04
Levy of 1977	
Personal Property	3,581.62
Levy of 1978	
Personal Property	4,056.00
Real Estate	2,758.58
	<b>6,830.58</b>
Levy of 1979	
Personal Property	5,014.37
Real Estate	825.35
	<b>5,839.72</b>
Levy of 1980	
Personal Property	5,024.90
Real Estate	47,393.90
	<b>53,218.80</b>

REVENUE ACCOUNTS	
Cash Revenue	703,703.94
Stabilization Fund	126,611.63
	<b>82,778.51</b>
Payroll Deductions:	
State Retirement	52,545.76
County Retirement	19,382.91
Group Health Insurance	16,702.34
Federal Withholding	111.22
Life Insurance	409.35
U.S. Savings Bonds	57.79
Union Dues:	
Clerical	4.00
Police	530.95
Public Works	242.00
School Committee	108.00
School Lunch	2.00
School Nurses	9.00
Park and Recreation	70.00
Agencies Education	7,662.40
School Amnesty Contract	50.00
Deferred Compensation	3,303.00
State Withholding	39.96
United Fund	2,458.76
	<b>131,697.24</b>
Guarantee Deposits:	
Miscellaneous Rides	4,266.78
Zone Change	1,023.48
Board of Appeals	514.18
Town Council Zone Change	111.12
Temporary Signs	45.00
Conservation File Fee	97.00
	<b>59,306.51</b>

#### REVENUE ACCOUNTS (CONT.)

Accounts Receivables: (cont.)	
Taxes: (cont.)	
Levy of 1961	
Personal Property	36,872.64
Real Estate	413,148.68
	<b>450,021.32</b>
Collector Roll Back	
of Taxes	189.15
Petra Animal Excise	
Levy of 1972	70.62
Motor Vehicle Excise:	
Levy of 1973	36,140.30
Levy of 1974	35,782.50
Levy of 1975	39,146.63
Levy of 1976	31,891.12
Levy of 1977	73,078.21
Levy of 1978	47,276.70
Levy of 1979	56,519.87
Levy of 1980	70,893.88
Levy of 1981	69,776.55
	<b>480,010.06</b>
Special Assessments:	
Sewer and Storm Drain	
Added to Taxes:	
Levy of 1961	5.00
Sidewalk Added to Taxes	
Levy of 1978	5.00
Committed Interest	
Levy of 1976	1.80
Levy of 1961	1.20
Apportioned Sewer Paid	
In Advance	6.42
Committed Interest Paid	
In Advance	.41
	<b>19.43</b>

#### REVENUE ACCOUNTS (CONT.)

Accounts Receivables: (cont.)	
Tax Titles	181,027.62
Tax Possessions	7,073.78
	<b>181,101.40</b>
Departmental Revenue:	
Sewer Use Charges	75,452.26
Sewers	66,553.97
1980 Sewer Late Charges and Demands	9.00
1981 Sewer Late Charges and Demands	43.00
Highways	3,794.54
Veterans' Benefits	4,384.61
Library Books and Fines	10,378.11
	<b>162,150.42</b>
Special Taxes:	
In Lieu of Taxes	13,750.00
Water:	
Lanes Added to Taxes	
Levy of 1977	29.00
Levy of 1979	63.80
Levy of 1980	81.73
Levy of 1981	3,868.94
Rates	186,001.26
Miscellaneous Services	14,976.80
Deposit for Services	412.66
	<b>205,435.99</b>
Aid to Highways:	
State	2,675.33
County	3,237.86
	<b>5,713.19</b>

Trust Fund Income:	
Doris A. Fynes	286.33
Whiting Street Worthy Poor	1,320.47
Mary A. Phalon	512.44
Minerva Davis Library	1,986.35
Old Cemetery	143.75
Feeding Hills Cemetery	
General Care	28.70
Perpetual Care	50.42
Maple Grove Cemetery	219.80
Lydia Roberts Cemetery	36.06
Paulin Pierce Scholarship	3,992.69
Eliza Williams Scholarship	75.86
	<b>8,763.11</b>
Interest on Bonds:	
North Westfield Street, Silver	
Street Drain	38.69
	<b>66,778.51</b>
Federal Grants:	
Schools:	
ESMA Title I	5,721.56
Aid to Education of Handicapped	
P.L. 93-380 Title V	2,000.00
Aid to Occupational Education	
P.L. 92-312	6,294.48
Aid to Education of Handicapped	
Title VI	50,452.08
Youth Adult Conservation	
Corp.	310.39
	<b>9,254.03</b>
Local Grants:	
Pioneer Valley Transit	
Authority	9,120.49
Youth Program - Movies	133.54

REVENUE ACCOUNTS (CONT.)	
Unprovided for Accounts:	
Fire Union Dues	2.25
Police Outside Duty	1,105.47
Fire Outside Duty	106.79
School - ESMA - Title II	6,791.13
Vocational Edno.	6,885.97
Court Judgement	6,490.00
	<b>19,381.61</b>
State Grants:	
Youth Program - ESMA	10,640.14
Library Books Title I	385.77
Rehabilitation Program	1,650.00
Smith-Boggs-Barden	2.94
Council on Aging:	
Adult Day Care	1,890.80
Old Age American Act	3,222.82
Consumer Aid	1,043.87
	<b>18,776.34</b>
Educational Collaborative:	
Lower Pioneer Valley	59,495.89
Westover Regional	1,253.69
	<b>60,749.78</b>

REVENUE ACCOUNTS (CONT.)	
Underestimates:	
State	
1979 Regional Transit Authority	740.00
1981 Regional Transit Authority	335.00
County Tax	107,747.07
	<b>106,822.07</b>
Overlay Deficits:	
Levy of 1979	4,642.52
1982 Revenues	15,784,964.00
	<b>15,784,964.00</b>
Revolving Funds:	
Schools:	
Lunch	3,402.51
Athletics	4,629.45
Adult Evening	208.84
Lost and Damaged Books	4,745.72
Industrial Arts	2,473.82
Art Supplies	706.76
Summer School	409.37
Council on Aging - Meals on Wheels	1,703.55
Parks and Recreation	2,403.72
Police Accident Ch. 44 S 53	2,624.90
	<b>23,588.63</b>

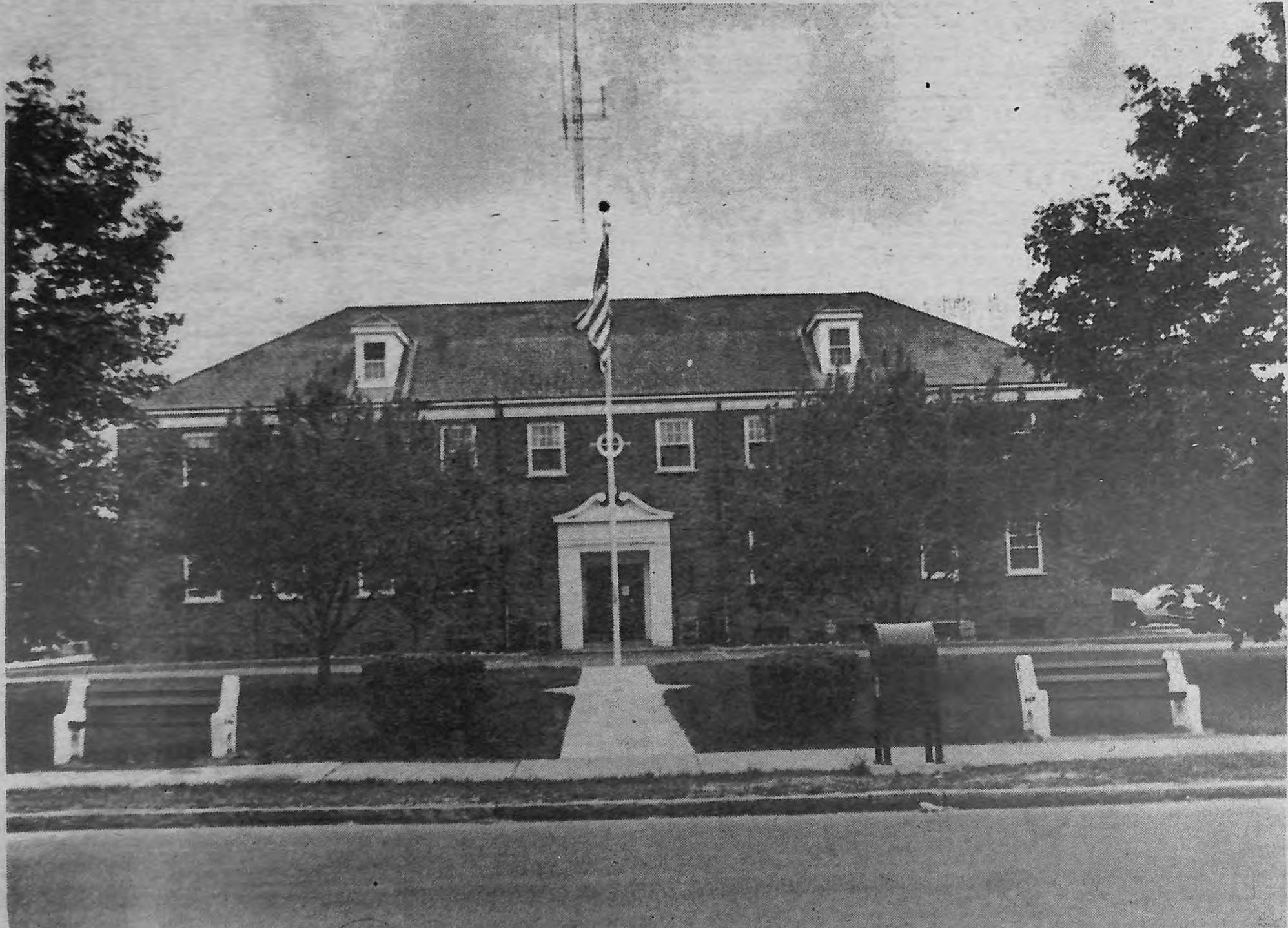
Appropriation Balances 1981:	
Election & Registration Services	2,536.00
Services	9,938.54
Services	2,425.48
Services	2,154.33
Services	1,764



TOWN OF AGAWAM - TOWN ACCOUNTANT  
SUMMARY - DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES  
YEAR ENDED - JUNE 30, 1981

	APPRO- PRIATIONS	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED BALANCE	CARRY OVER		APPRO- PRIATIONS	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED BALANCE	CARRY OVER
<b>General Government</b>									
Town Council	16,750.00	14,986.34	1,763.66		Department of Public Works	82,616.95	61,108.16	21,708.79	
Town Manager	95,789.00	86,144.19	2,444.81	5,200.00	DPW Administration	1,253,794.02	639,043.90	117,018.09	497,732.03
Accountant	53,363.50	51,509.94	1,853.56		Sanitation	751,030.95	589,737.68	43,406.90	117,866.37
Clerk	58,766.24	51,671.59	7,096.65		Highway	121,873.00	107,419.09	9,203.91	5,250.00
Treasurer	57,491.00	48,987.86	8,503.14		Engineering	66,570.41		66,570.41	
Collector	51,105.00	49,099.25	2,045.75		Chapter 90 Construction				
Assessor	120,587.00	121,423.87	2,163.13		Youth Commission	43,977.00	40,352.55	3,624.45	
Law	65,168.00	63,622.45	1,545.55		Veterans' Benefits	77,253.95	64,123.46	6,130.49	5,000.00
Election & Registration	46,471.68	16,520.38	740.32	29,210.98	Schools	8,120,847.80	7,441,063.89	208,168.91	474,615.00
Administration Building	140,173.63	131,732.55	7,185.08	1,236.00	School Maintenance	1,115,708.76	992,916.95	122,791.81	
Board of Appeals	1,265.00	931.01	333.99		Library	210,965.38	203,523.74	7,441.64	
Planning Board	9,596.00	4,924.62	4,671.38		Park & Recreation	207,927.00	203,815.70	4,111.30	
Data Processing	68,708.63	65,282.55	371.89	3,054.19	Unclassified	1,745,175.92	1,533,754.37	113,687.55	97,734.00
Dog Law Enforcement	10,385.00	9,615.00	770.00		Enterprise (Water)	1,137,001.67	913,114.42	22,265.47	201,621.78
Council on Aging	166,616.88	145,220.78	23,396.10		Maturing Debt & Interest	1,080,000.00	1,005,896.06	74,103.94	
<b>Public Safety</b>									
Fire	1,076,180.61	1,054,949.53	23,231.28		Bond Administration Payments	31,000.00	19,334.80		11,665.20
Police	1,205,512.32	1,175,178.67	27,333.65	3,000.00	Bond Direct Payment	102,000.00	10,000.00		92,000.00
Inspector of Weights & Measures	27,944.00	26,453.16	1,490.84		Capital Improvements	219,151.49	107,311.10	51,049.41	60,790.98
Building Department	68,782.00	66,733.31	2,048.69						
Forestry	29,000.00	25,987.46	3,012.54						
Civil Defense	3,574.77	730.05	2,844.72						
<b>Public Health</b>									
Health Department	151,670.00	147,093.38	4,576.62						
<b>TOTAL SUMMARY</b>									
	19,901,996.76		17,293,173.81					1,002,806.42	1,606,016.53

## AGAWAM TOWN HALL



Refurbished Grounds Completed In 1981  
At Town Hall, 36 Main Street